

RYAL SIDE
FROM EARLY DAYS OF
SALEM COLONY

CALVIN P. PIERCE

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RYAL SIDE FROM EARLY DAYS
OF SALEM COLONY

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By
CALVIN P. PIERCE

With Illustrations



CAMBRIDGE
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THE BEVERLY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MDCCCCXXI

SHOWING SUBDIVISIONS AND LOCATIONS OF LANDMARKS, ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE SURVEYS

- A Woolstone (Danvers) River
- 1 Land of Jacob Barney
- 2 Boundary — Leach and Barney, since 1643
- 3 Elliott Street — new part, 1810
- 4 Junction of Elliott Street and Dark Lane
- 5 Long; also Leach's Cove
- 6 Old Leach burial lot
- 7 Site of Lawrence Leach house
- 8 Old way through Ryal Side
- 8x Cressy Street
- 9 Brackett's Cove
- 10 Muddy Cove
- 11 Leased to John Tompkins and 11 others — 1677
- 12 Leased to John Leach — 1677

- 12x Head bound of John Leach's land, black oak tree
- 13 Leased to John Batchelder — 1677
- 13x Head bound of John Batchelder's land, white oak tree.
- 14 Cornelius Baker farm
- 15 Land of Cornet Howard
- 15x Chanted Swamp
- 16 Land of Nicholas Hayward — 1642
- 16x Land of Abraham Warren — 1635
- 17 Old way into Ryal Side
- 17x Old Green Street
- 18 Proprietor's Way
- 18x Giles's Lane; also Batchelder's waterway

- 19 First landing-place — 1635
- 20 Present location of U.S. M.A.A. Club House
- 21 Conant Street
- 21x Horse Bridge
- 22 Cabot Street
- 23 Balch Street
- 24 Old Planter's Path
- 25 Granted to William King — 1636
- 26 King's Lane
- 27 John Friend's cornmill — 1647
- 28 King's Cove
- 29 John Scudder's house and tannery — 1642

- 29x Granted to Edmund Marshall — 1636
- 30 Leased to John Green — 1677
- 30x Green's Hill
- 31 Coal Pit Hill, site of Ryal Side Schoolhouse
- 32 Granted to John Winthrop, Jr. — 1639
- 32x Newman's Corner
- 33 Betty's Cove
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- 35 Ellingwood's Cove
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- 37 Salt House Point
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- 42 Bushnell Lot — 1636
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- B Present location of Bridge Street
- C Bass River
- D Draper's Lane

- E Mill Lane — 1657
- F Henry Herrick's Rock
- G John Green's Gate and site of first house
- H Captain John Dodge house
- I Felton's Meadow
- J Holton's; also Cressy's Meadow
- K House of John Batchelder, Sr.
- L House of John Batchelder, Jr.
- M Herrick's Bridge
- N Henry Cook's Lot — 1638
- O John Dodge land
- P John Raymond farm



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TO MY FRIEND

MISS KATHARINE PEABODY LORING
PRESIDENT OF THE BEVERLY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*For her interest and encouragement in the publication
of this work and for her benevolent activities and patriotic
public service, this volume is respectfully dedicated.*

INTRODUCTORY

ALTHOUGH the chapters which comprise this volume do not furnish a complete account of the original ownership of all the lands of the early settlers of Ryal Side, I have taken from the records of the Registry of Deeds and Probate Court for Essex County, records of the Quarterly Courts for Essex County, Salem and Beverly town records, Essex Institute, Beverly Public Library, Beverly Historical Society, Church records, private diaries, published surveys, and other reliable references, such information as I could gather, in the limited time at my disposal from a daily employment, concerning the settlement and early ownership of these lands, and which I hope will, at least, give to some future student a suitable beginning for research work, as well as provide for those presently interested an acquaintance with the names and settlements of those who, nearly three centuries ago, established their homesteads on these lands.

From the Batchelder and Cressy genealogies and from Stone's 'History,' I have considered some information and data, which, upon verification, I have found reliable and of assistance.

When I began this pastime some twenty years ago, the older residents, who had known the district for many years, and who might have given me authentic information concerning landmarks and of people and events of the last century, had passed away, but the kindly assistance I received from Mr. Alvah J. Bradstreet pro-

vided a key which revealed the solution of several problems and cleared what was, in the beginning, a hazy situation. I now thank him for his interest.

I have received also from Mr. Albert H. Richardson, City Engineer, and the employees of his office, Miss Alice G. Lapham, Mr. P. Russell Bosworth, Miss Mabel B. Perry, Mr. Fred H. Wallis, Mrs. Lizzie W. Flint, Mr. Ulysses G. Haskell, Miss Marjorie H. Stanton, Librarian, and the employees of the Beverly Public Library, generous assistance which I sincerely appreciate. The friendly disposition shown by Mr. George H. Snow, who provided much of the photographic work shown in this volume, calls for my grateful recognition.

I must not forget the interesting and instructive hours I have spent with Mr. George W. Dodge, 151 Conant Street, Danvers, whose reliable information concerning events in the neighborhood of his home, and covering a period of eighty years of his life, has been to me of material profit and personal pleasure.

CALVIN P. PIERCE

EXPLANATORY

EXCEPT where the records refer to and spell the name of the district otherwise, it will be spelled in these chapters in accordance with that form in common usage, 'Ryal Side.' There is no authority for any particular manner of spelling nor in the form of the name. It is spelled and referred to in the ancient records as 'Ryal Side,' 'Rial Side,' 'Ryal Syde,' 'Ryall Side,' 'Royall Side,' 'Ryalls Side,' 'Royalls neck,' 'Royalls neck Side,' 'Royalls neck on the Cape an Side,' and perhaps a few other forms. I have seen 'real sid' employed as a designation.

As the district lies between Bass River on the east and Frost Fish River on the west, there is the formation of a neck of land, which accounts for the name appearing in the early records as 'Ryalls neck' or 'Royalls neck.'

A genealogist of the family refers to the emigrant woodsman, from whose name the name of the district was given, as spelling his name 'Ryal'; with later members of the family, it was 'Ryall,' while those of later ancestry chose 'Royall.'

The names of the various rivers, brooks, hills, coves, meadows, swamps, ways, and other landmarks by which they were known in the early days, but now lost in the passing centuries, are indicated on the map near the first cover and in the text, and of these, Bass River alone retains its original name and was so called nearly three centuries ago. Granted lands and leased lands are shown on the map near the last cover.

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ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE SURVEYS

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RYAL SIDE FROM EARLY DAYS
OF SALEM COLONY

RYAL SIDE



ORIGIN OF THE NAME — EARLY SETTLERS AND THEIR LANDS

THE origin of the name 'Ryal Side' undoubtedly arose from the direct association with these lands of an English emigrant by the name of William Ryal, or Ryall. He came in 1629 on one of the three ships in the service of the New England Company which sailed at the same time, the *George Bonaventura*,¹ *Lyon's Whelp*, and *Talbot*.² The letter from the Governor and Deputy of the New England Company to Captain Endicott at Salem, dated Gravesend, the 17th of April, 1629, contains the earliest reference that can be found concerning him:

'William Ryall and Thomas Brude, Coops and Cleavers of Tymber, are entertained by us in halfes wth Mr Craddock or Go pray inoyne other that can assist them unto them and lett them pvide some Staves and other Tymber of all sorts to bee sent us by the *Talbot*, *Whelp* or other 2 Shipps that come after.' In the letter there is also found another reference: 'We have advised you of the sending of Willm Ryall and Thomas Brude, Cleavers of Tymber.'

It appears that by occupation William Ryal was a

¹ The *Bonaventura* sailed from the Isle of Wight, May 4, 1629.

² The *Whelp* and *Talbot* sailed from the Isle of Wight, May 11, 1629.

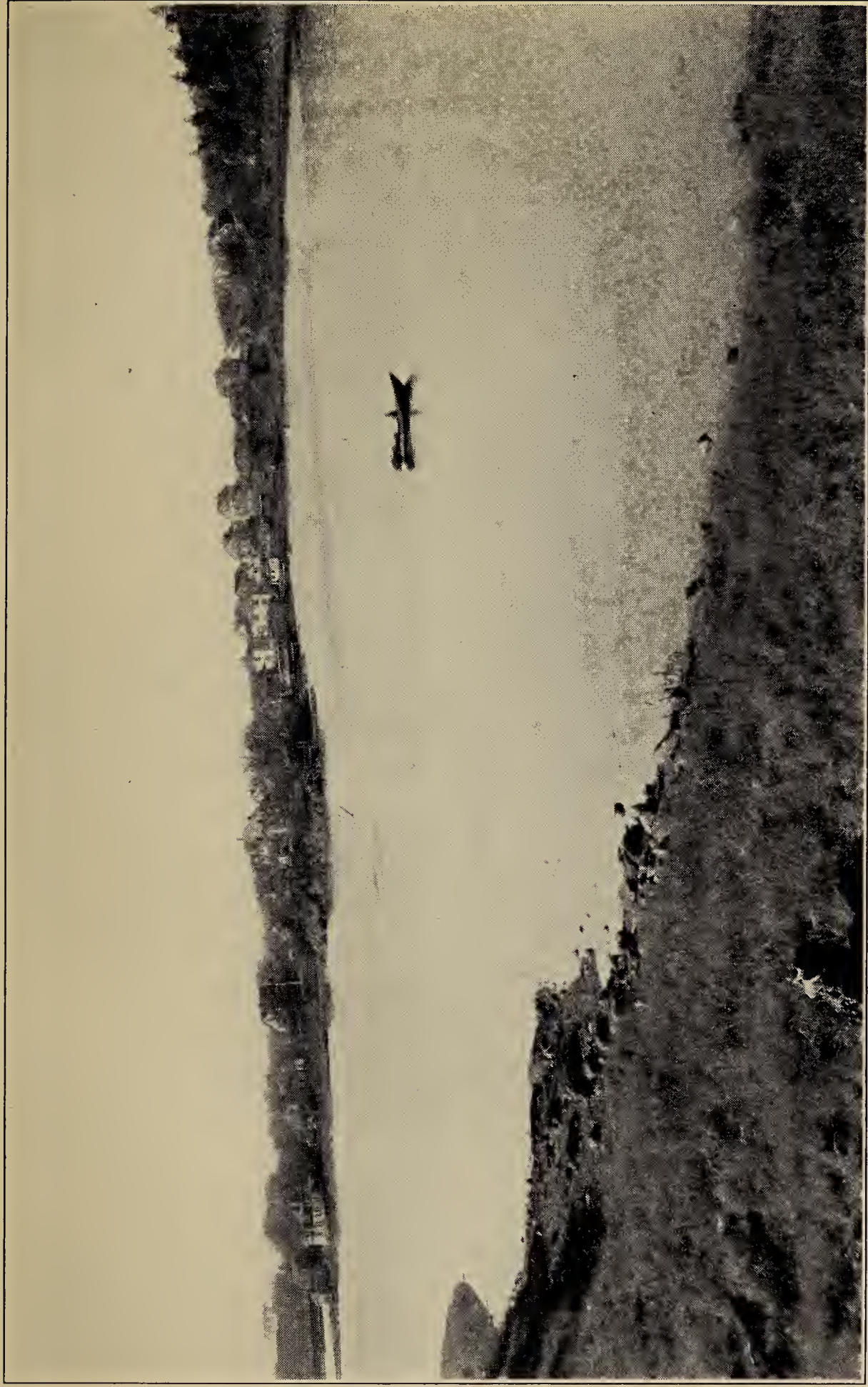
cooper and cleaver of timber, his ability as a woodsman being the probable reason for his selection by the New England Company as one of the two men to labor in the forest of the common lands of Salem. His name is not mentioned in the town records of Salem, nor in the records of the Quarterly Courts. As the earliest known records of Salem appear to be as of 1634, Ryal undoubtedly went away from the place as early as that year.

By way of inducement or additional compensation for his settlement and labor, he may have received a grant of land from the town, of which there is no record, but if such a concession was extended to him, the assignment of these lands to subsequent grantees indicates a reversion of any rights or privileges he may have received from the Town of Salem upon his removal to Sagadahoc (Maine), where, in 1635, he obtained possession of a large tract of land out of the grand patent.

In a letter to former President John Adams, dated October 10, 1809, Dr. William Bentley, of Salem, writes: 'Gov. Endicott came to Salem in 1728 [error for 1628]. His farm still retains his name. Opposite to him, the King's Forrester, Mr Rial was ordered to settle & the name "Rials side" is still retained.' ¹

Mr. Ryal appears to have been willing to part with some of his concession at Casco Bay, for in the journal of Governor Winthrop, under date of May 15, 1639, the Governor states: 'One Mr. Ryall having gotten a patent at Sagadahoc out of the grand patent, wrote to our governor and tendered it to our government, so we

¹ Diary of Dr. William Bentley.



SALTHOUSE POINT AND DIXIE'S COVE

From Ward One Playground, looking west. William Ryal hewed timber on these shores, 1630

would send people to possess it. The governor acquainted the general court with it, but nothing was done about it for we were not ready for such a business, having enough to do at home.'

The first mention made of the locality in the town records of Salem appears in the minutes of the Selectmen, where the following action was recorded at a 'meeting held on the 25 of the 2 moneth 1638':

'Item ther is granted to Mr John Winthrop Jun. liberty to set a Salt house upon Ryalls side with wood for his occasions about the same house and Comon for 2 Cows to pasture in.' ¹

While this was the first reference to the name, the district was the subject of official attention of the Selectmen, as several grants of land had been made and the grantees had established their homes here prior to that time, for in 1635 the Selectmen voted, 'That Lawrence Leach, Richard Ingersoll & others be sure to lea(ve) roome for high wayes for Carts to bring home wood &c.' ² On December 28, 1635, the Selectmen agreed 'That Abram Warren may haue a 10 acre lott and an howse lott.' ³

In this wild and unsettled region the pioneers came to establish their homes, secure admission to freeman-ship, obtain grants of land and build their cabins. The woodsman's axe was the tool used to provide shelter for the settler and his family and from the streams and forest came his sustenance until he could secure the

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 70.

² Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 9.

³ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 11.

necessary implements to obtain from the soil a better and more comfortable condition of living. After he had provided himself with shelter, it became necessary for him to find the most convenient way to his neighbor's plantation, to the streams, the springs, and later, to the meeting house, the cornmill, and the sawmill as these became established.

The drift ways for cattle were, in some instances, found to be sufficiently well located for convenience of public travel, and they were engaged by the town, widened and determined as town highways, parts of which are existing and used today.

While the records seem to indicate a ready thrift and progress on the part of some of the settlers, there are evidences of hardship and poverty in several cases and the uphill struggle for existence was plainly evident in the meager and scanty inventory of their worldly possessions.

Early after the establishment of Salem Township, there was a requirement upon the intended settler that his application for admission as an inhabitant should be approved before he could obtain a settlement, and upon becoming a freeman his privileges were extended and a grant of land was made to him which he was supposed to improve and use for the material welfare of himself, advancing the value of the lands he accepted.

In a number of cases it is evident that the land assigned to some of the early inhabitants was not improved by them and was afterward granted to other applicants, either by reason of abandonment or from

other causes, and it also appears that lands were assigned which were not available, the lack of a sufficient record being sometimes the cause of conflict and action at law.

Disputes over land boundaries and the laying-out of highways were not uncommon at Ryal Side in the early days and the records show in several instances that Jacob Barney and Jeffrey Massey, two members of the Board of Selectmen, were usually called to adjust the difficulty.

According to the Salem town records, the lots or grants were laid out and the lines defined by the 'lott layers,' who from as early as 1635 were vested with this authority. It was made compulsory that those to whom lands had been assigned should report 'to the men appoynted to lay out bounds... And that eurie mans bounds may be recorded upon ye penaltie of Xs¹ (pvided that those deputed to lay out bounds be paid for yr paynes).'

There is very little in either the town or court records that affords an adequate description of the exact location of the lands of the early grantees, and to attempt their location by following the information crudely described in the instrument, metes and definite bounds not being given, is a problem. A considerable number of them, however, have been accurately placed.

Springs, brooks, and wells are commonly mentioned as points and bounds, and the actual location of these affords a source of proof, but in the passing of centuries, many of such landmarks have become nearly obliterated.

¹ Ten shillings.

ated, and the trees, stumps, and bushes, also frequently referred to, have long since disappeared.

Although the development of the lands, the building of new streets, and other geographical changes have caused a removal of the original walls separating the lands of the various proprietors, erected perhaps from two to three centuries ago, many miles of them are still standing and their courses are found on the map of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, made from the survey of 1848,¹ which will correspond with such information as may be found in the town records and the recorded deeds of the prior owners of the subdivisions.

The description found in the report of Richard Leach and Francis Nurse, in the lay-out of the land assigned to Elizabeth Newman,² a daughter of John Winthrop, Jr., by order of the Town of Salem in 1678, found in the Book of Grants, is the best, and in fact the only definite, account which fairly describes the location of lands officially assigned at Ryal Side. They were probably enjoined by the town to be as accurate as possible in this matter, as this lay-out of forty-four acres was the result of an agreement in settlement in an action to recover, brought by the heirs of John Winthrop, Jr.³

Names associated with lands at Ryal Side, as indicated by the earliest town records, were Lawrence Leach, Richard Ingersoll, William King, Abraham War-

¹ Land divisions and landmarks are shown on map in the first part of the book.

² Granted lands and leased lands are shown on map in the last part of the book.

³ Records of the Quarterly Courts of Essex County, volume 6, page 244.

ren, Henry Herrick, Jacob Barney, John Batchelder, John Kitchen, Thomas Robbins, Nicholas Hayward, John Leach, John Friend, Esdras Read, John Holgrave, John Marston, John Scudder, John Porter, Edward Bishop, John Green, John Tompkins, Jr., Joshua Ray, Samuel Leach, Richard Leach, Robert Cue, John Flint, John Dodge, Cornelius Baker, Henry Cooke, and John Bulfinch.

Many of these men received grants of land in the earliest days of the establishment of the Town of Salem, some as early as 1635, and others were purchasers of the rights in the lands of the original grantees. Some of them were active in the affairs of the township and lived at Ryal Side until their death.

For valuable assistance or services, parcels were granted to town officials who did not live here, notably Jeffrey Massey, a selectman, and Henry Skerry, marshal of the town.

Of the old planters whose names are here given, those of Lawrence Leach and Richard Ingersoll ¹ appear first in the town records and Abraham Warren ² next, in May and December respectively, in the year 1635.

Leach and Ingersoll were neighbors. Mr. Leach lived on the western side of the 'greate hill' (Folly Hill), and the wall which now may be seen running over the hill, south of the Salem Reservoir, marks the northerly boundary of his lands. He lived here until he sold his farm to his son, Richard, taking up his residence in a small house which stood at what is now the junction of

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 9.

² Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 11.

McKay and Elliott Streets, which was included in the cornmill property which he bought of John Friend.

Mr. Ingersoll lived on the point of land called 'Ingersoll's Point' through which Liberty Street in Danvers now runs to the river. He was the ferryman and lived here until his death. His lands lay west of Mr. Leach's, the easterly boundary being what is now called 'Dark Lane.' His farm was next possessed by Jacob Barney after considerable litigation with the Ingersoll heirs.

Abraham Warren had a small acreage in the vicinity of the golf grounds on the northerly side of Elliott Street and his house was here. At his death, the inventory taken by his son-in-law, John Green, showed a scanty estate.

Dark Lane, Cressy Street, and a major portion of Elliott Street, comprised the old way 'Through Royall side,' which was there as early as 1650 and was the only way which gave the planters, living in the western district, access to John Friend's cornmill on Bass River, which was established as early as 1647.

The lands earliest assigned lay in the northern portion of the district, while many acres in the southern part were designated as 'townes comon' and were disposed of to various lessees under a general lease by the Town of Salem, February 1, 1677,¹ 'for ye full space and tearme of one thousand years.' A great part of these lands lay south of Cressy and Elliott Streets, extending to Bass River on the south and Danvers River on the west.

The boundaries of the land leased to these men were made sufficient to cover the one hundred acres leased to

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 2, page 269.

each, in addition to and enclosing the lands already held by them in fee; as, for instance, the lots granted to John Bulfinch and John Marston, lying south and north of Elliott Street, respectively, near Eastern Avenue and Hillside Avenue, were within the Batchelder boundary, John Batchelder, 2d, having acquired these lots.

At the time of the incorporation of Beverly, October 14, 1668,¹ its western boundary extended no further than Bass River and a line running northerly from the head of that river by Horse Bridge to the Wenham line, excluding Ryal Side and the territory lying between Frost Fish Brook and Bass River.²

Religious association with Beverly was permitted to the people living within these boundaries by vote of the Town of Salem in 1711.

Prior to 1753, the boundary line separating Beverly from Salem began at 'A Rock at ye head of Bassriver.... Which rock is alsoe twenty four foot or thereabouts from a small brooke North Northwest & from said Rock nigh North & by west half a point westerly athwart Capt. Dodges Dwelling house³ six foot to ye Eastward

¹ Passed October 14, 1668, Mass. Archives, volume CXII, pages 182-183.

² On May 28, 1659, the people on the Cape Ann side of Bass River, petitioned the General Court to be established as a separate township. This was referred to Salem with the understanding that, if there were no objection, Salem was to set the bounds. Salem set the bounds December 14, 1659, and Bass River was to be the easterly boundary. May 27, 1668, the people of Cape Ann side again petitioned that they be incorporated as a town. On the same date, the General Court 'on perusall of their petition judge meet to grant their request' if Salem concurred. Salem replied, 'that they did not see cause to consent further.' On October 14, 1668, 'The Court on perusall of this returne, Judge it meete to grant that Bass River be henceforth a township of themselves, referring it to Salem to accommodate them with lands & bounds suitably for them & that it be called Beverly.'

³ A portion of the boundary rock was removed when McKay Street was

of his brik Chimney as it now stands.' ¹ This line continued 'in ye same point of ye Compass' across the arable land of Captain John Dodge to the land of William Rayment, thence to near the land of Deacon Peter Woodbury to Horse Bridge and passing on through the land of Captain William Dodge to the Wenham line.

All territory lying west of this line and Bass River to Frost Fish Brook continued a part of Salem until September 11, 1753, when it was annexed to Beverly.² Thus Ryall Side did not become a part of Beverly until about eighty-five years after the incorporation of the town.

This territory continued a part of Beverly until April 27, 1857, at which time the western portion of it was annexed to Danvers as indicated by the present line.

The meadow stream running out of Bass River, northerly, now known as 'Bell's Brook,' was formerly called 'Horse Brook,' and crosses Conant Street a short distance westerly from Cabot Street, and the bridge at this point was called 'Horse Bridge.'

In the early part of the eighteenth century, the district was known as the 'Precinct of Salem and Beverly,'

constructed. The site of Captain John Dodge's house was at the first tee of the United Shoe Machinery Athletic Association golf course and the line ran through the land of the United Shoe Machinery Corporation, northerly, parallel with McKay Street.

¹ Beverly Town Records, City Documents, 1900, page 371.

² Ryall Side was annexed to Beverly, September 11, 1753, under 'An Act for setting off the inhabitants, as also the estates of the proprietors of that part of the Precinct of Salem and Beverly, so called, which is a part of Salem to the town of Beverly.' (Chapter 12, Province Laws, 1753.)

and the Church at North Beverly was known as the 'Church at Horse Bridge.'

Beverly, one of the oldest settlements in New England, was finally completed as its municipal boundaries now stand by the union of several settlements, and of these, Ryal Side is the most distinct. Owing to its geographical position, it being nearly surrounded by water, communication in early days with the town proper, and also with Salem, could be had only by boat. This situation may be better understood by reference to the accompanying maps.

LEASES OF THE COMMON LAND OF RYAL SIDE IN THE YEAR 1677/8

ON February 1, 1677/8,¹ the Selectmen of Salem issued an order which provided that all the common lands at Ryal Side should be leased to John Green, John Leach, John Batchelder, and John Tompkins, Jr., for 'ye full space & tearme of one thousand yeares & one day,' excepting forty-four acres which were reserved by the Selectmen for the use of six families of Ryal Side who lived near the lot and also of five families who lived in the Northfields of Salem, on the westerly side of the river.

The land leased to John Tompkins, Jr., of one hundred acres in addition to the reservation of forty-four acres leased to the eleven families, was bounded by the Wooleston River ² on the west and its eastern boundary was defined by a wall which ran from Stoney Cove ³ northerly to a point on the hill ⁴ opposite, westerly from the Ryal Side schoolhouse, thence westerly to Muddy Cove on the river at the termination of what is now Bradstreet Avenue.

On January 22, 1678/9, the Selectmen voted to lay out, 'distinct by it Self,' the forty-four acres to the eleven families, and at the next meeting, held on January 28, 1678/9, an order was issued leasing the lot to George Jacobs, Sr., John Tompkins, Jr., John Waters, John Foster, Jr., Samuel Foster, Lieutenant Richard

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 2, page 269.

² Danvers River.

³ Aunt Betty's Cove; early name, Stoney Cove.

⁴ Pine Hill, near Western Avenue.

Leach, John Leach, John Green, John Batchelder, Joseph Batchelder, and Abraham Warren, for a period of nine hundred and ninety-nine years for a yearly rental of five shillings and six pence each. This arrangement was supposed to give to each of the lessees a small pasturage for sheep and cattle, and the lots have been referred to as 'cow leases.'

The order of February 1, 1677/8, secured to Green, Leach, Tompkins, and Batchelder a lease covering a right to about four hundred acres of land for a period of one thousand years for a yearly rental of about five pounds each, to be free of taxation.

The Lease of 1677/8

Att a meeting of ye Selectmen of Salem ye 1 of February 1677¹ being present as in ye margent

Mr. Edmd Batter	Know all men whome this may concern
" Wm Brown Junr	yt ye Selectmen of Salem whose names
" Bar: Gedney	are sett in ye margent have in ye behalf
Lt Jno. Pickringe	& by ye order of ye towne of Salem a
Capt Jno price	fore said Leaten & Sett to Lease unto
	John Greene, John Leach ye Son of
	Richard Leech & to John Bachelder
	and to John Tompkins Junr all of ym of ye towne of Salem a
	foresaid all ye townes comons on ryal side, excepting forty
	fower ackers of ye comons of ryal side aforesaid wch ye Select-
	men doe reserue for ye use and bene fitt of those neighbors wh
	border on ye sd land or towns comons and ye five next famillys
	in ye north field, as ye Selectmen Shal order. yt is to say twenty
	ackers of ye said forty & fower ackers to be alotted out by ye
	Selectmen. intire for ye use of those five famillys in ye north
	field: viz Georg Jacobs Senr, John Tompkins Junr, John
	Watters John ffoster Junr & Samuel ffoster & the rest of the

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 2, page 269.

forty fower ackers for ye use of Lt Richard Leach John Leach, John Greene, John Bachelder, Joseph Bachelder & Abraham Warren which ye Selectmen doe alott to them as their porcon of ye townes commons wch said parcel of townes commons on ryal side aforesaid the Selectmen in ye behalf and by ye order of ye towne of Salem have Leten & Sett to Lease unto ye said John Greene, John Leach and John Bachelder & John Tompkins Junr for ye ful space & tearme of one thowsand years & one daye from ye date heare of with all the profits and priviulidgs there of to be held & injoied by them their heyers executors administrators & assignes during the whole tearme of one thowsand years & one daye as afore said and ye Selectmen doe ingage ye said comons on ryal side shalbe Rate free to ym their heyers executors administrators & assignes duringe ye whole space & tearme of one thowsand yeares.

In Considiration of ye premises ye aforesd Leafsees, Jno Green, Jno Leach & Jno Bachelder doe hereby Ingage themselves, their heires Executors Administrators or afsignes to pay for each year Succesively dureing ye whole tearme of one thowsand yeares aforesd ye full & Just summe of twenty & two pounds in Currant money of New England unto ye Towne of Salem or thier order att or before ye day of ye date hereof & doe further Ingage for them selues heires Executors or assignes ye wt wood soeuer shall bee disposed of from ye Land dureing ye sd tearme, shall be sould to ye Inhabitants or ye Towne of Salem for their owne Vse & alsoe ye sd Leafsees, doe Ingage themseules their heires Executors administrators & afsignes to pay for halfe ye fence yt shall bee made between ye sd Land & ye sd twenty acres of Townes Comon reserued as aforsd for ye Vse of ye fve families in ye North field And in case of non payment according to time & specie aforesd ye abouesd Lefsees, Jno Green, Jno Leach & Jno Bachelder doe Ingage themselves, their heires executors, administrators or assignes to pay unto ye Towne of Salem aforesd one yeares rent besides wt is Justly due to ye Towne,



HEAD BOUNDS OF THE BATCHELDER LANDS

Stake in angle of stone wall, marks site of the white oak tree, 1677

for ye Improuement of sd Comons and peaceably to yeald up
ye pofesion of ye sd Land to ye Towne of Salem And for ye
true & sure pformance of all & euery part of ye prmises ye
abouesd Leafsees, bind themselues heires, Executors admin-
istrators & afsignes firmly by these presents ye day & year
abouesd.

Witnefs their hands with seales
affixed

JNO LEACH
JNO GREEN
JNO BACHELDER

Att a metting of the Selectmen being prsent ye 1=12 1678

	Then resaued of Jno Green Jno Leach
Capt Jno Corwin	Jno Bachelder & John Thompkins Junr
mr Jos Graften	the Summe of twenty pounds in money
mr ph Cromwell	for theire first yeares rent for Royall Side
Samll Gardner	beinge for the yeare 1678 according to
Jno Higginson	leace baring date 1st 12 mo 1677.

In accordance with the order of the Selectmen of
February 1, 1677/8, reserving the lot of forty-four acres
'for the use of the 6 Naboring families on Royall Side &
the 5 Nabouring families in the North field,' the Select-
men, at their meeting of January 22, 1678/9, appointed
as a committee: 'Capt Jno Corwin Samll Gardner Junr,
Jno Higginson Junr, Samll Gardner Senr & Bartholmew
Gidney... to lay it out as they shall Se Cause.'

This lot comprised the lands in the immediate vicinity
of Foster's Point.

It appears that, prior to 1677, certain rights were held
by John Tompkins, John Waters, Sr., John Foster, and
George Jacobs, Sr., in a limited territory lying in the
southwesterly portion of the common.

When, in 1677, the lease of all the common, excepting

forty-four acres, was made to the four grantees, Leach, Tompkins, Batchelder,¹ and Green, the boundaries indicating their respective divisions were undoubtedly understood by them from that year, as the first payment on their leases of five pounds each was made by them February 1, 1678, but it was not until March 2, 1707, that a formal partition was made by the agreement of the grantees, and acknowledged March 27, 1708.²

Partition of Ryall Side

First Division

To John Batchelder, Jonathan Batchelder and Josiah Batchelder ye most North east or North part of ye land now divided bounded as follows: viz — from a white oak East to a crooked stump and from ye Stump South to a Small Ash and from thence East to a heap of Stones from thence East still to a Stump near Green's wall and from thence south as ye wall runneth till it comes to Newman's line and from thence North West to Newman's Corner and from thence South East to Cove and thence over ye Cove to Creeses Wall and from thence up to ye Spring above mentioned, which Spring is for ye use of ye North field parties as well as ye said Batchelder and from ye Spring to a stake and heap of Stones and from thence to a White oak 1st mentioned, about 100 acres, and shall have liberty to pass over with carts over both ye other Dividends, Leaches and the Northfield parties.³

Second Division

To John Leach and his son Samuel Leach — The westernmost part of dividend land bounded as follows: — from the

¹ John Batchelder died in 1684 and his right and interest in the partition was conveyed to his three sons, John, Jonathan, and Josiah.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 20, leaf 186. The boundaries of the partition to John Green are not recorded in Essex Registry of Deeds.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 20, leaf 186.

spring above mentioned to a stake and heap of stones from thence North west to a white oak tree (Marked) which bound between leased land and the property of said Leach and Batchelder, from thence to a black oak (marked) and from thence South west to head of ye Cove and South as marsh runs to 1st bounds at Muddy Cove Counting about 98 acres.

Said Leaches shall g. liberty to before named parties a convenient drift way ¹ over ye land hereby divided and also the aforementioned Batchelders themselves liberty for carting over the said land to ye landing place.²

The Northfield Party

Third Division

To John Foster, John and Richard Waters, Nathaniel Tompkins, Joseph Jacobs on behalf of his father George Jacobs, and Samuel Foster — ye South or South west part — bounded as follows: — viz, Beginning at Muddy Cove at Stake and Stone and so East to another stake and heap of stones at ye Northerly side of Pine Hill and from thence South East ward to ye Spring and from thence to Cressys wall including all ye leased land on ye Southward side of this line and shall and will from time to time permit said Batchelders and Leaches to have a cart way over this dividend and also a convenient landing place and the way to lead to it as may be least detriment.

Above shares to these parties respectively, their heirs and assigns for ever.³

JOSEPH POPE

JOHN BALCH

THORNDIKE PROCTOR

Committee to division

March 27, 1708

June 21, 1708, S. Sewall J. P.

¹ A drift way was a narrow way for passage of animals and carts.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 20, leaf 186.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 20, leaf 186.

LANDS OF RICHARD INGERSOLL

RICHARD INGERSOLL settled at Salem in 1629 and was granted eighty acres of land by the Town of Salem in 1636. Other smaller grants of land were made to him subsequently. He emigrated from Bedfordshire, England, in 1629 and was one of the earliest of the pioneers.

In the letter of the Governor and Deputy of the New England Company, written at London, May 28, 1629, is found this reference to Mr. Ingersoll: 'There is also one Richard Haward and Richard Inkersall, both Bedfordshire men, hyred for the Company, wth their families, who wee yow may bee well accommodated, not doubting but they well & orderly demeane themselves.'

In 1637,¹ he was authorized to establish a ferry over the North River. 'It is agreed that Ricd Inkersoll shall henceforward have one peny (a tyme to maintaine the ferry) for every pson he doeth ferry over the north (ferry) river duringe the towns pleasure.'

The location of the lands assigned him appears to be described in a deed given by Ann Knight, formerly the widow of Richard Ingersoll, to her two sons, John and Nathaniel Ingersoll, dated April 10, 1668: 'Abutting northerly by Frostfish Riverhead, Easterly by the Countrie rodeway, Southerly some land of Jacob Barney and Northerly the lands sometime Pascoe Foote, Now in Occupacon of Jacob Barney.'

Mr. Ingersoll's lands were bounded by tidewater on the west and south and some portion on the north, while

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 31.

the eastern boundary was 'the Countrie rodeway' now known as 'Dark Lane.' His farm constituted a large point of land extending into the river and on which Mr. Ingersoll's house stood. Liberty Street runs through the middle of the farm to the Danversport Bridge. It was called 'Ingerson's Point.'

Mr. Ingersoll died in 1644, and by will he devised all his estate of lands, goods, and chattels to his wife, Ann, except certain lands which he devised to his sons, George, John, and Nathaniel.

Shortly after the death of Mr. Ingersoll, the widow married John Knight, of Newbury, and went there to live, leaving Joseph Houlton, who was a servant of Mr. Ingersoll, living on the farm at Ryal Side.

By some means, William Paine, of Boston, obtained possession of the farm and sold it to Jacob Barney in 1651, for eight pounds, but did not give Mr. Barney a deed until July 26, 1657, and the lawful possession of the farm then became a matter of dispute between the Ingersoll heirs and Jacob Barney.

On April 10, 1668, 'An (her mark) Knight in remembrance of her deceased husband and tender respect to thier children with the free consent of her now husband John Knight conveys to her sons, John and Nathaniel Ingerson, said eighty acres lying at a place called Royall Side with the Trees, woods &c.'

On the same date, power of attorney was given 'by John Knight sr. and An (her mark) Knight of Nubury to their beloved son John Potnam or Joseph Houlton to give possession of a farm to John and Nathaniel Ingerson.'

Acting under this authority, John and Nathaniel Ingersoll demanded possession of the farm of Mr. Barney but he refused, claiming title under the deed from William Paine.

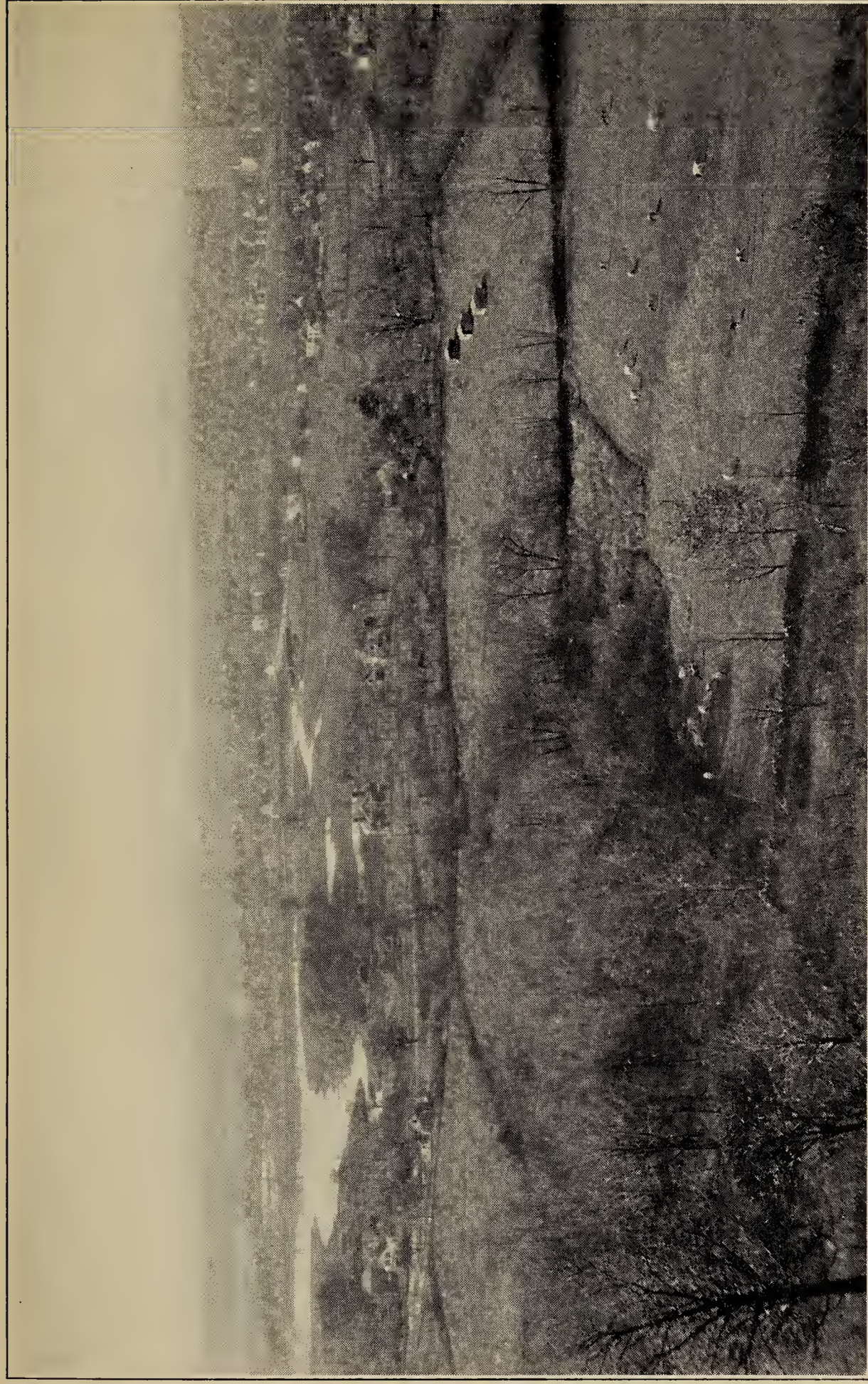
Writ: John and Nathaniel Ingerson V Jacob Barney sr. trespass done upon their land on Ryall Side in Salem near Frost fish river, by fencing, breakin and cutting down their wood and otherwise (under pretence of purchase made of Mr. William Paine, deceased) indeavoring thereby to put the plaintiffs from their just right to the said land: dated March 16, 1668-9. signed by Hilliard Veren for the court; and served by Henry Skerry, marshal of Salem.¹

In the testimony given at the trial, John Porter testified that John Knight came up from Newbury and offered to trade the whole farm for a cow, but Mr. Porter referred him to his neighbor, Mr. Barney, as the trade might be more suitable to him, as his farm lay nearer the Ingersoll lands.

‘Henry Bartholmew, aged about sixty years, deposed that he went with Jacob Barney sr of Salem to Mr. William Paine, then living at Ipswich, to assist said Barney in buying the Ingersoll farm. Said Barney bought it and paid 8 li for it, 1651. For I finde on my booke in the 3r mo 52 that I had Charged Jacob Barney debtor for the said 8 li. that I had paid Mr. Paine for him and that he had at that time pd me most of it.’

John Putnam deposed that ‘in 1641 or 42 said Richard the father had a house standing upon the land commonly called Ingerson’s point adjoining Willistone’s river, near the place of fishing and there planted corn.’

¹ Records of the Quarterly Courts, volume 4, pages 109-112.



FROM BROWN'S FOLLY LOOKING WEST
Lands of Jacob Barney in foreground. Lands of Richard Ingersoll,
beyond. Leach's or Long Cove on left, Barney's Cove on right

Verdict of the jury: that the land was granted to the plaintiff, that defendant bought it before 1652 and possessed it by felling timber &c. and that if this was a legal possession according to the law of 1657 they found for the defendant, if not for plaintiff.

The Court found for the defendant Barney, but the Ingersolls were apparently not satisfied with the verdict and had the case reviewed,¹ when Mr. Barney again secured judgment, the jury finding a verbal sale to him by Mr. Paine about 1651.

Mr. Paine's deed to Mr. Barney was presented as evidence in the Court's review:

Deed dated July 5, 1657 from Will. Paine of Boston merchant to Jacob Barney of Salem for 8 li. land in Salem wch land was sometime the farme lott of Richard Ingersoll of Salem, deceased ye wch farme is bounded one the East wth the farme of Jacob Barney one the west wth ye farme of Paskee Foote & one South wth the river caled frost fish River & one ye North wth a farme sometimes in the possession of Jno Holgrave all wch said land beinge about one hundred Acres more or Lesse togeather wth ye salt marsh lying wth it.

Among other witnesses who testified at the review there appears:

Mighill Cresie aged about forty years, who deposed that about sixteen years ago in the winter time he worked with Jacob Barney jr. one day helping him to get railes and fencing stuff upon the farm between Leeches Hill and Frost fish river, adjoining the farm of Jacob Barney sr. where Jacob jr now lives.

Joshua Ray ² aged about thirty eight years deposed that the

¹ Records of the Quarterly Courts for Essex County, volume 4, pages 144-145.

² Joshua Ray was a prominent citizen and lived on Conant Street; his lands comprised what is now known as the Proctor farm.

creek or cove below the Bas point on Frost fish river, above twenty years ago was always considered the bounds between Jacob Barney and Richard Ingersoll. Then there ran a fence from that creek up towards Barne's old Barn.

The testimony given at the trial brought out the location of the houses where Barney and Ingersoll lived.

John Putnam, aged about forty years, deposed that the Cove below Bass point was the bound between Engersell and Barney and from that Cove there was a fence made by Jacob Barney sr. to his old house.

The Ingersoll house, according to the information given by the various witnesses, was situated on the point of land over which Liberty Street was laid out and stood not far from 'Spite Bridge.'¹

The 'rodeway' (Dark Lane)² was the eastern boundary of Mr. Ingersoll's land. The location of the fence referred to in the testimony of Joshua Ray and John Putnam, separating the lands of Barney and Ingersoll, is now marked by a stone wall which runs from the Cove (Barney's Cove) easterly, near the house of Herbert W. Staples, 103 Elliott Street, to the homestead lot, between Elliott Street and Dark Lane, of Mr. Charles E. Foster.

The point of land west of Barney's Cove was Bass Point, and lying between Bass Point and Liberty Street was 'the basing place' or public fishing place.

On an old plan showing the 'way through Ryall Side,' on file at the office of the Essex County Clerk of Courts, an old way is shown running due west from the location

¹ Danversport Bridge was formerly called 'Spite Bridge.'

² Dark Lane is now called Foster Street.

of the Barney house, across the present location of Elliott Street and through the Ingersoll lands to a place on the point where the Ingersoll house stood. It was used for many years as a 'water way' and in the early part of the nineteenth century was called 'Webb Road.'

With the exception of the buildings erected on Elliott and Liberty Streets, a large acreage within the confines of the Ingersoll grant remains unoccupied and cleared of timber growth.

After obtaining possession of the Ingersoll farm, Jacob Barney, Jr., divided it into lots, which he sold to various purchasers, and upon which he must have realized a profit, for his father bought the entire farm of one hundred acres for eight pounds, or at the rate of forty cents an acre, and this was a lower value than the current value of one of John Porter's cows for which John Knight offered the Ingersoll farm in trade. Finding, however, that his title to the Ingersoll farm was insufficient, Jacob Barney, Jr., on February 16, 1691/2,¹ paid to George Ingersoll and Nathaniel Ingersoll the sum of fifteen pounds, receiving a release of all interest which the Ingersoll heirs had in the property.

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 51, leaf 51.

LANDS OF LAWRENCE LEACH

LAWRENCE LEACH came from England in 1629 on one of the ships in the service of the New England Company, at the time William Ryal came. The letter from the Governor and Deputy of the Company to Captain Endicott, at Salem, contains a very complimentary reference to Mr. Leach, and was written from Gravesend, April 17, 1629: 'Wee desire yow to take notice of one Lawrence Leach, whom we have found a carefull & painfull man and wee doubt not but hee will continue his dilligence; lett him have deserving respect.'

Several assignments of land at Ryal Side were made to Mr. Leach from time to time, some of which are among the earliest recorded. He established his home near the 'greate hill' (Folly Hill) at what is now known as the Putnam farm on Elliott Street.

He was a prominent and respected man in the colony and had many years of service as a juryman and selectman. His first recorded service was as a juryman at the court held at Salem, September 27, 1635. At the time of his settlement, his nearest neighbor was Richard Ingersoll, whose lands lay west from Mr. Leach's, and the names of these two pioneers are found in an entry in the Salem town records of 1635, when the Selectmen voted 'that Lawrence leach, Richard Ingersoll & others be sure to lea[ve] roome for high wayes for Carts to bring home wood &c.'¹ The Selectmen were soon in-

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 9.

formed That between 'Lawrence Leach and Richard Ingersoll they doe promise to make a sufficient Cart way.'

Jacob Barney was granted the land on the north of Mr. Leach and the early situation in this locality is described in the Salem town records, February 5, 1643: 'It is ordered that the Lotts that are layd out next to Goodman Leeches at the great hill as namely Jacob Barneyes and Richard Ingersolls shall determyne (all three) with a streight lyne at the tope of the hill at the marked tree where Lawrence Leeches lot doeth end Provided it comes not within any mans propertie.'¹

This 'lyne' is now marked by a stone wall which runs from the head of Long Cove,² at what is now the junction of Dark Lane and Elliott Street, in an easterly direction over the hill, southerly of the Salem Reservoir.

While this wall plainly defines the separation of the Leach and Barney lands, it does not appear to define so distinctly the separation of the Barney and Ingersoll lands as subsequent claims of Jacob Barney and the Court's decision appear to indicate. This boundary, however, is mentioned in the general lease of 1677/8, the northerly boundary of the Leach lands being defined by a line running 'Southwest to ye head of ye cove.'

Mr. Leach lived on his farm until he sold his homestead to his son, Richard, prior to 1650, for about that time he acquired the cornmill of John Friend for forty pounds, paid ten pounds on account, and operated the mill until he died in 1662, intestate.

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 124.

² Long Cove was also called Leach's Cove.

When Mr. Leach bought the cornmill of John Friend, it appears that upon a two-acre lot adjacent to the mill, at what is now the junction of McKay and Elliott Streets, 'John Friend som tyme built one dwelling house' within the confines of the William King lands. Mr. Leach appears to have occupied this house, and, while it is mentioned in the inventory of his estate, he never possessed the title, as it was later purchased by his son, John Leach, of William King, on November 8, 1662.¹

Although the cornmill is also included in the inventory of the estate of Lawrence Leach, he never possessed the title, for the property was conveyed by Samuel Friend, administrator of his father's estate, by bill of sale to John Leach, September 7, 1665.²

The inventory of his possessions, taken after his death, shows that Mr. Leach died possessed of a small estate. His desire as to the disposition of his property was thus presented to the court: ³

Lawrence Leach, Aged 85 years or thereabouts being parfitte in memory neer a yeare before his death expressed himself unto us whose names are hereunder written in the disposing of that which he had, we beinge urgent wth him to make his will his expressions to us was this first he said that he did owe thirtie pounds for the mill & his will was that his wife should pay his debts and when his debts were paid that shee should take all hee had.

JOHN PORTER.

JOHN BACHELLER.

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 4, leaf 48.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 5, leaf 109.

³ Records of the Quarterly Courts of Essex County, volume 1, page 245.

Proved in Salem Court 25:4:1662 by the witnesses and Elizabeth wife of the deceased was appointed administratrix.

The inventory mentions 'the howse, with 2 acres of land with the orchard being part of the two acres, a mill,¹ 20 acres of land not improved on Ryal Side neare Mr. Bacheller, 15 acres of meadow neare John Porters farme bought of Mr Downing and personal property.' The total value of the estate was '138 li: 14 s: 8 d.'

Lawrence Leach was proposed as a freeman at Salem in 1630, and died June 24, 1662. His was a long and honorable citizenship; his last public service was as a juryman, a short time prior to his death.

The farm at Folly Hill remained in the possession of Richard Leach until his death, when it descended to his son, Sergeant John Leach. The farm was included within the boundaries of the lands leased to Sergeant Leach, February 1, 1677/8.²

On April 5, 1716,³ Sergeant John Leach conveyed 'for love to my son, Samuel Leach, all my housing and land and one half my right on Ryall Side cross the end of my farm joining Jacob Barney's farm.' This was a lot of forty acres. On the same date he conveyed to five daughters 'the other one half that I hired of the Town of Salem.' This was a lot of forty-nine acres.⁴

Samuel Leach died in the winter of 1731/2, intestate, and in the division of his estate there was set off to his widow, Mary, afterward Mary Bayley, two undivided

¹ The mill referred to was the old Friend cornmill on Elliott Street.

² Salem Town Records, volume 2, page 269.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 31, leaf 180.

⁴ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 33, leaf 94.

sixths parts of a lot on the northerly side of the highway and also a two-sixths part of land, house, and barn on the opposite side of the road.

On October 15, 1770,¹ George Leach, as administrator of the estate of Samuel Leach, sold to Robert Hooper, of Marblehead, the eighteen-acre lot on the south side of the road with the house and barn standing thereon. There was an irregularity in this sale, as apparently George Leach included certain rights of the heirs which he had no power to convey, and as a result an action was brought by Robert Hooper, to satisfy which he claimed additional land on the north side of the road.

It appears that Robert Hooper, in possession of two thirds of the Leach homestead on the south side of the road, conveyed that part to Samuel Sewall, of Marblehead, who, on July 28, 1794,² bought of Asa Leach, for twenty-one pounds, a two-sixths part of a lot of land on the north side of the road, also a two-sixths part of land, house, and barn on the south side of the road, which were set off to Mary, the widow of Samuel, from his estate.

November 8, 1796,³ Samuel Sewall, of Marblehead, conveyed to Rufus Putnam for the sum of \$1386, three tracts of land, one of eighteen acres on the south side of the road with the house and barn, one tract of eleven acres on the north side of the road, and one lot of four acres near Foster's Point. As the record of conveyance does not mention the existence of any building on the

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 127, leaf 261.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 159, leaf 8.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 161, leaf 78.



HOUSE OF RUFUS PUTNAM
Erected about 1800
On the lands of Lawrence Leach

north side of the road, the brick house, known as the Putnam farmhouse, was undoubtedly built by Rufus Putnam near the year 1800.

By will, Rufus Putnam gave the use of one third of all real estate, household furniture, etc., to his wife, Mary, so long as she remained his widow; to his son, William, one third, and in case of the death of the widow, her portion shall be William's, and to Rufus, 2d, the remaining one third.

On petition of Rufus Putnam, 2d, July 15, 1854,¹ a partition of the estate was made, and to Rufus there was assigned the 'Westfield, with the brick tenement 17 × 34, with the woodhouse standing thereon.' To Mary was assigned a portion of the homestead on the south side and other land and the use of the west room in the house. To William, all the homestead on the north side not already assigned. William Putnam lived here and carried on the farm for many years.

What are now known as the Bradstreet and Hussey farm lands comprise a large acreage in about the middle of the Leach lands. A large portion of the land leased to John Leach by the Town of Salem, 1677/8, lay between the land leased to John Batchelder and the Northfield men.

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 498, leaf 108.

LANDS OF JACOB BARNEY

JACOB BARNEY was an early inhabitant of Ryal Side and received a grant of land from the Town of Salem as early as 1636 and several other grants were made to him prior to 1652. December 18, 1650, there was 'Graunted to Jacob Barney 50 acres of land to be layd out of that land next adjoyning unto that wich was Mr. Alfords ffarme or in any other Convenient place at the discretion of the layers out.'

As Mr. Alford's farm included what is now the Cherry Hill property, this assignment probably referred to land adjoining that of Mr. Barney east of Leach's Hill (Folly Hill) and extending on the south side of Conant Street. April 5, 1652, he received a grant of thirty acres which adjoined the land of Pasco Foot and which Mr. Foot conveyed to John Porter, December 18, 1665.¹

Mr. Barney served the Town of Salem for many years as selectman and was appointed on many occasions to matters of public service, such as the laying-out of lots to the grantees, the settlement of disputes among the planters, jury service, and the laying-out of public highways.

His house and barn stood in what is now the homestead lot of Mr. Charles E. Foster, 100 Elliott Street, Danvers, near the 'old roadway,' a short distance from its junction with Elliott Street. A new barn has been placed on the foundation of the old one and a modern

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2, leaf 110.

poultry house covers a portion of the cellar wall of the old Barney house.

In 1651,¹ Mr. Barney became possessed of the Ingersoll farm of about eighty acres, and this, with a large acreage he received by various grants, gave him possession of about three hundred acres, extending from Frost Fish River and on both sides of Conant Street easterly to what is now known as the Trask farm.

The town records appear to indicate that the westerly portion of his lands, given under his early assignments, gave him only a small portion of marsh or water-bounded land, and in the testimony of witnesses in various cases in which he became involved, both as plaintiff and defendant, some of the testimony tended to show that, in order to obtain more land by the water side, he improperly appropriated some of the Ingersoll land. This seemed to be contended by the Ingersoll heirs.

Court held at Salem 14:7;1639. Rich Inkersell V Jacob Barney. Upon motion of Colonel Endicott, Jeffery Massey and others ordered to lay out lands of defendant.

Court held at Salem 29:7:1640. Jacob Barney V Richard Ingersoll. Feeding Cattle in his marsh. Verdict: Two loads of hay at water side as convenient as his own was.

In the court action of March 16, 1668/9,² Joseph Houlton testified 'that he heard Jacob Barney sr. own that he now had the land that was formerly Richard Ingersalls.'

John Porter testified 'Jacob Barney sr in 1651 mowed

¹ Testimony of Henry Bartholmew, who paid William Paine, advancing the money to Jacob Barney.

² Records of the Quarter Courts of Essex County, volume 4, pages 109-112.

a parcel of salt marsh south of the little creek which creek lay southward of the basing place ¹ and had continued from year to year without molestation.'

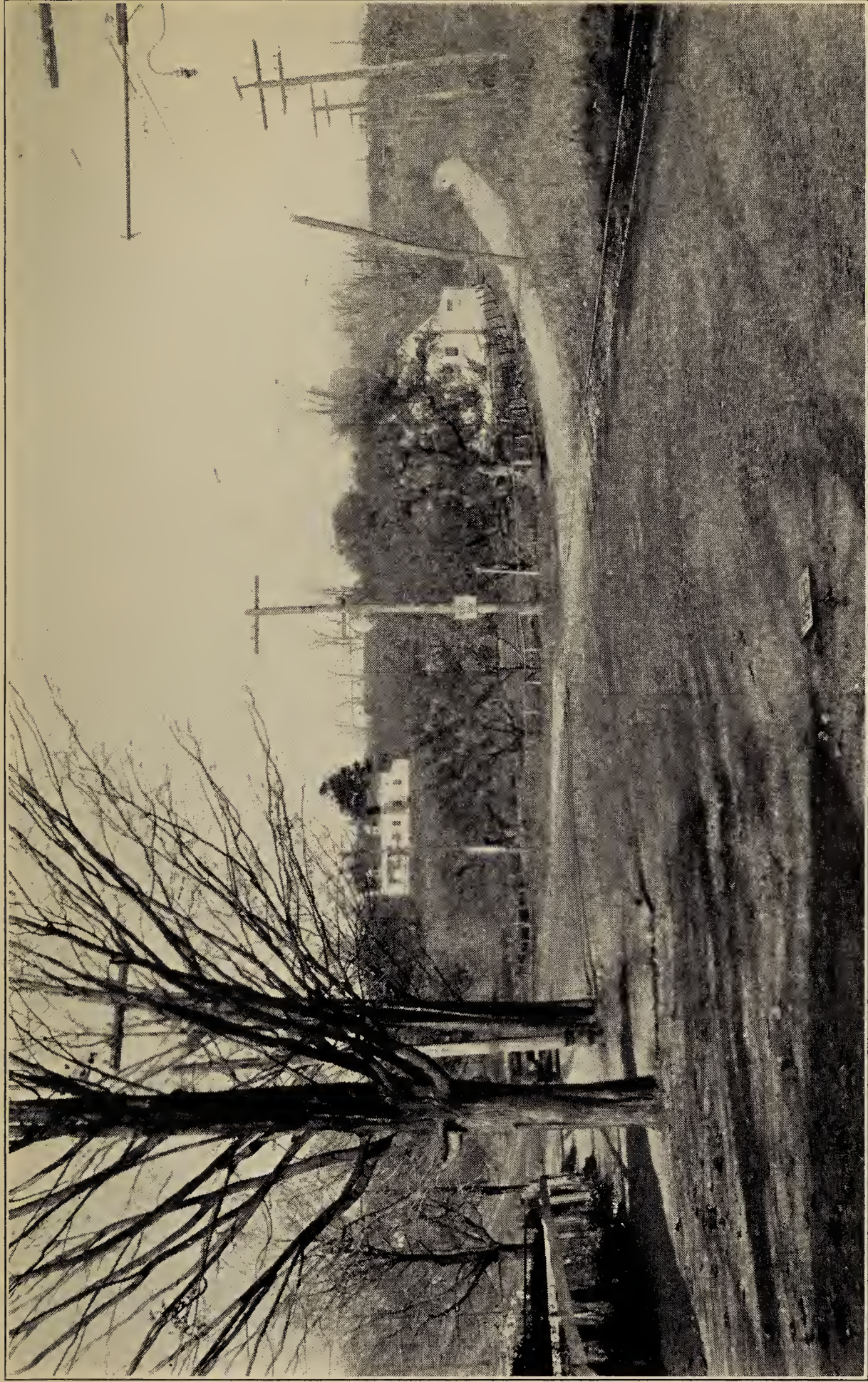
The records indicate that for many years a continuous dispute was carried on between the Ingersolls and Barneys over land boundaries, which was not terminated until Mr. Barney acquired possession of the Ingersoll farm by purchase from William Paine, which was confirmed by a court decision in 1668.

Jacob Barney, Sr., died intestate in 1673, and the Court at Ipswich granted administration of the estate to Eliza, the widow, and Jacob, the son, who were directed to bring in an inventory to the next Ipswich Court. The inventory, which was taken by John Porter and Richard Leach, was allowed and the agreement of the heirs was accepted by the Court, September 30, 1673.

The lands of Jacob Barney descended to his son, Jacob, who sold a large part of the lands of the estate in the latter part of the seventeenth century to various parties, also a large portion which was included in the farm of John Porter, which was situated at Frost Fish Riverhead. This portion, together with the immediate lands of the Barney homestead, comprised a large acreage, which, at about the middle of the eighteenth century, came into the possession of Robert Hooper, Jr., of Marblehead, and afterward by William Browne, Esq., of Salem.

On that part of Folly Hill near the southern boundary

¹ The basing (basin) place was the public fishing place, at the first cove south of Liberty Street, near Danversport Bridge.



BASE OF FOLLY HILL

Jacob Barney's house stood between the 'old roadway' (Dark Lane) and the Foster house in center

of the Barney farm and on which the Salem Reservoir stands, Mr. Browne erected what has been referred to as a mansion. Passing through these lands at the base of the hill was the 'countrey rodeway,' which is now called Foster Street, and in recent years better known as 'Dark Lane.' This, however, is a rather gloomy designation for what is an attractive ancient highway which passes through territory upon which, three centuries ago, were scenes of rural activity and where the homes of the earliest pioneers were established.

From these rude houses of Ingersoll, Leach, and Barney the changes of the passing years brought to this environment, in pre-Revolutionary days, a display of wealth and luxury, exhibited in the imposing mansion and improved grounds of the estate which William Browne maintained on the 'greate hill,'¹ looking down on the old house of Jacob Barney, the first owner of these lands.

From the time of his boyhood, this locality was one of considerable attraction to Nathaniel Hawthorne, whose attachment for the spot he expresses so well in his 'American Note-Books' (Wayside Edition):

October 14, 1837. This Browne's Hill is a long ridge, lying in the midst of a large, level plain; it looks at a distance somewhat like a whale, with its head and tail under water, but its immense back protruding, with steep sides and a gradual curve along its length. When you have climbed it

¹ This statement is made upon the authority of a description of the place, found in the diary of Captain Goelet, a New York merchant, who was a guest of William Browne at his 'country seat,' October 20, 1750. He also states: 'The house is built in the form of a long square, with wings at each end, and is about 80 feet long.'

on one side, and gaze from the summit at the other, you feel as if you had made a discovery, — the landscape being quite different on the two sides. The cellar of the house, which formerly crowned the hill and used to be named 'Browne's Folly,' still remains, two grass-grown and shallow hollows, on the highest part of the ridge. The house consisted of two wings, each perhaps sixty feet in length, united by a middle part, in which was the entrance-hall, and which looked lengthwise along the hill. The foundation of a spacious porch may be traced on either side of the central portion; some of the stones still remain; but even where they are gone, the line of the porch is still traceable by the greener verdure.

In the cellar, or rather in the two cellars, grow one or two barberry bushes, with frost-bitten fruit; there is also yarrow with its white flower, and yellow dandelions. The cellars are still deep enough to shelter a person, all but his head at least, from the wind on the summit of the hill; but they are all grass-grown. A line of trees seems to have been planted along the ridge of the hill. The edifice must have made quite a magnificent appearance.

In a letter 'The Wayside,' dated August 28, 1860, Mr. Hawthorne writes:¹

Along its base ran a green and seldom trodden lane, with which I was very familiar in my boyhood, and there was a little brook which I remember to have dammed up till its overflow made a mimic ocean. When I last looked for this tiny streamlet, which was still rippling freshly through my memory, I found it strangely shrunken; a mere ditch, indeed, and almost a dry one. But the green lane was still there, precisely as I remembered it; two wheel tracks and the beaten path of the horses' feet and grassy strips between; the whole overshadowed by tall locust trees, and the prevalent barberry bushes, which are rooted so fondly into the recollections of every Essex man.

¹ Essex Institute Historical Collections, volume 31, 1884, page 207.

The life of the great mansion, which was given by its owner the name of 'Browne Hall,' was destined to an unhappy termination. It was so badly shaken by the great earthquake of 1755 that it was removed. Concerning this Mr. Hawthorne writes: 1822518

Whether a folly, or no, the house was certainly an unfortunate one. While still in its glory, it was so tremendously shaken by the earthquake of 1755, that the owner dared no longer reside in it, and practically acknowledging that its ambitious site rendered it indeed a folly, he proceeded to locate it on humbler ground.

The great house actually took up its march along the declining ridge of the hill and came safely to the bottom, where it stood till within the memory of men now alive.

The house remained with all its furniture in its spacious rooms and chambers... As time went on, however, it began to be neglected and was accessible to whatever vagrant or idle school boy or berrying party chose to enter through its ill-secured windows.

Mr. Stone, in his 'History of Beverly,' states that the mansion was removed by Mr. Browne, in 1761, to a site near Liberty Corner, which Mr. Ezra D. Hines says is the 'corner of Liberty and Conant Streets, Danvers, where the remains of a well and an orchard may still be discovered.'

With the exception of the small number of houses standing on Conant, Liberty, and Elliott Streets, the lands of Jacob Barney are now employed to some extent for farm purposes.

THE SALT HOUSE AND NEWMAN LANDS

IN the Salem town records, under date of June 15, 1638, there is the following entry: 'Item ther is granted to Mr. John Winthrop Jun. liberty to set a Salt House upon Ryalls side wth wood for his occasions about the same house and Comon for 2 Cows to pasture in.' ¹ It is probable that he had begun operations early in the year 1638, as an entry in the colonial records under date of January 22, 1637/8 appears to indicate: 'John Winthrop has liberty from his father Gov. Winthrop to set up salt works at Ryal Side and to have wood enough to carry on the works and pasture for two cows.'

The Salt House was completed within the immediate year, for in the following year, on August 19, 1639, there was 'Graunted to John Winthrop Escr. Junior, a little neck of land adioning to the salthouse built by the said Winthrop contayning about 16 acres thereabouts, more or less lying between a cove wch is on the north side of his said house & a little brooke lying to the west of the said house.' ²

Mr. Winthrop erected his oven and cauldron on the southern extremity of the point as shown in a plan made by Daniel Eppes, attorney for the Winthrop heirs, March 28, 1677,³ and 'carried on ye design of making salt' by the boiling process or evaporation, producing

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 70.

² Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 90.

³ On file in the office of the Clerk of Courts at Salem.

the finer grade for domestic use. Mr. Winthrop also erected a dwelling-house on his land and lived there at times with his employee, Robert Hebard, his saltmaker.

Just how long Mr. Winthrop carried on the salt works does not appear in the records, but the fact that he did have 'house and Family there some considerable time' is stated by one of his carpenters, and no record shows the existence of salt works in the Salem Colony at an earlier period.

According to the records, the land granted to John Winthrop, Jr., did not exceed sixteen acres, but in the case of *Newman vs. Read*, it was brought out that a much larger lot was laid out for him, and the land claimed by the plaintiff lay along the Wooleston River from the Salt House Point to Stoney Cove and measuring about fifty-two rods in width at each end.

Within these bounds were also included the two points of land lying to the south of Stoney Cove which had been previously granted to Henry Skerry by the Town of Salem, April 27, 1654,¹ and, as those who were appointed to lay out the lot to Mr. Winthrop overlooked this fact, the matter consequently became a subject of legal controversy.

Rev. Antepas Newman, of the Wenham Parish, married Elizabeth, a daughter of John Winthrop, Jr., and according to a sworn statement of her brother, the lands were given by his father to his son-in-law, Newman, as a wedding gift. Mr. Newman died in 1672, survived by his wife, who afterward married Zerubbabel Endicott, of Salem.

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 177.

After the death of her husband, Mrs. Newman and her son, John Newman, intending to sell the lands, directed their attorney, Mr. Daniel Epps, to ascertain the true bounds. Assisted by a former employee of Mr. Winthrop, who knew the bounds, Epps discovered a house on the larger point near the cove, in occupation by Abraham Read, who had built the house and had lived there three years without the knowledge of the Newmans, having purchased both points of land from Henry Skerry. The attorney demanded the house and land of Mr. Read, but having title from Mr. Skerry, he refused to comply and the Newmans brought an action of trespass.

The evidence given in court appeared to establish Mrs. Newman's claim, but as no definite bounds had been previously recorded, a settlement was finally made through the intervention of the Town of Salem, a lot of forty-four acres within defined bounds was given in settlement to the Newmans, and Mr. Read's title was acknowledged.

Judging by the extent of the court record, a part of which is here given and the procedure in the final laying-out of the lot, the case was one of considerable interest to the town.

Court held at Ipswich, March 27, 1677.

Writ: Mistriss Elizabeth Newman of Wenham administratrix and relict of Mr Antepas Newman of Wenham, minister, lately deceased V Abraham Reade: for building breaking up, improving and keeping a parcel of land which lay in the land that was in the possession of John Winthrop Esc. and several years since given by said Winthrop to said Newman which land lay on Royal side or in that land known by the



SALTHOUSE POINT, LOOKING WEST FROM THE GREEN LANDS
Dixie's Cove in foreground



SKETCH OF SALTHOUSE POINT

Presented to the Court in the civil action of Newman heirs *vs.* Reid by
attorney Daniel Epps, March 28, 1677

name of salt house neck in Salem and which Mr Daniel Epps as her attorney demanded of said Reade and he refused to deliver it.¹

Major Wait Winthrop testified: 'that the land above mentioned was given to my brother Newman deceased by my Father after mr Newman marryed my sister and this acknowledg as I am one of the executors to my Father.'

Attorney Epps presented to the Court as evidence: 'A Draft of ye manner of ye lying of ye Land of Mris Newmans on Royalls Neck in Salem Township. p mee Daniell Epps this 28 March, 1677; as neare as I can by ye Poynts of ye Compass.'²

Nathaniel Pickman, who was one of Winthrop's carpenters, testified that '30 odd yeares past I Built a House for John Winthrop Escr at ye Poynt on Royall neck and yt Mr Winthrops Land went from ye lower poynt unto a Second Brooke called Stonie brooke which runs in to Woolistons River ye sd Woolistons River being ye Bound all along that side and from ye salt house basse river bounded it unto a Cove which cove ran some considerable way into ye land but on ye uper side of ye Cove there was a small strap of Salt marsh & at or near ye end of sayd marsh towards ye mouth of ye Cove there was a great tree marked which was Mr. Winthrops bound. And I ye sayd Pittman doe further testifie that Mr Winthrop did make improvement of a salt house there upon sd Land & kept a familie there a Considerable time.'

¹ Records of the Quarterly Courts of Essex County, volume 6, pages 244-248.

² On file in the office of the Clerk of Courts at Salem.

Daniel Epps, the attorney who brought the action for the Winthrop heirs, testified 'that he demanded the house and land of Abraham Reid but he claimed the land was his, that he had possession of it about three years and built the house then upon it.'

Robert Hebard, the saltmaker, deposed 'that about thirty three or four years ago he dwelt with Mr John Winthrope at the salthouse upon Royall side when the lot layers laid out the land and saw the bounds marked.'

William Bennett, also a carpenter employed by Winthrop, deposed 'that 30 odd yeares past yt I having occasion to worke there upon Carpintry worke some times for Mr Winthrop & some times hewing Timber for ship or vessells use upon ye Comon Lands Adjacent Mr Winthrop having a house and Family there some considerable time & carried on ye designe of making salt.'

Testimony of Roger Conant:

I Roger Conant being desired to speake what I could remember about Mr Winthrops Frame or land att the salthouse on Royals necke, doe testifie hereby that I was one that did lay it out with and by order of Salem Towne, and Old John Woodbery was the second man for the laying it out with me, and as I remember Captaine Traske was the third man for the laying it out, as for the length thereof, it was along Wolostons River sid from the salthouse corner up to a second brooke (called as I remember stonie brooke) towards Mr Endicots farme on the riuier side that way, and Wollistons riuier was the bound all along on that side from the salt house to the afore sayd second brooke, and wee running a lyne on the other sid next Basse riuier from the salthouse could not goe over the Cove because of the watter or tide that was in the same, the coue running out from basse riuier into the land

wee were laying out (most of the length of the coue being in Mr Winthrops land) wherefore wee went about the coue and on the uper or other sid of the coue Insigne Dixie had a strap of saltmarsh lying and there at the head of his marsh we marked a great tree for A bound, the river called basse riuier being the bound from the salthouse to that tree, and from that tree at Dixies marsh at ye west end the line was run to an other tree that was a bound and marked from the mouth of stonie brooke in the wood northward from Woolistons riuier, and to the utmost of my memorie, (it being thirtie and od yeares past) the breadth of the land at stonie brooke was equall with the breadth from the tree at Dixies marsh to Woolistons riuier.

Sworn, Feb. 24, 1678 before Samuel Symonds, Dep. Gov.¹

While there were many cases of dispute concerning land boundaries and ownership at Ryal Side in the early days of the Township of Salem, the case of Newman *vs.* Read undoubtedly attracted considerable public attention.

Roger Conant, whose reputation for honesty of statement and of purpose was undoubtedly of a character that carried far in his public and private activities, was one of the three men appointed to lay out the Winthrop lands. No statement is made by him, however, as to the source of authority under which he and his associates acted in including so large an acreage in excess of that on the town records, but, although there may have been error on his part, his statement of the lay-out was readily accepted by the Selectmen as being an act performed in good faith, and it appears to have influenced the Selectmen in their conclusion, as indicated by the

¹ Records of the Quarterly Courts for Essex County, volume 6, pages 244-248.

agreement in settlement, which contains a reference to his work.

His description of the lay-out, though quaintly made, is an accurate statement of the geography of the locality and indicates a retentive memory of a man advanced in years.

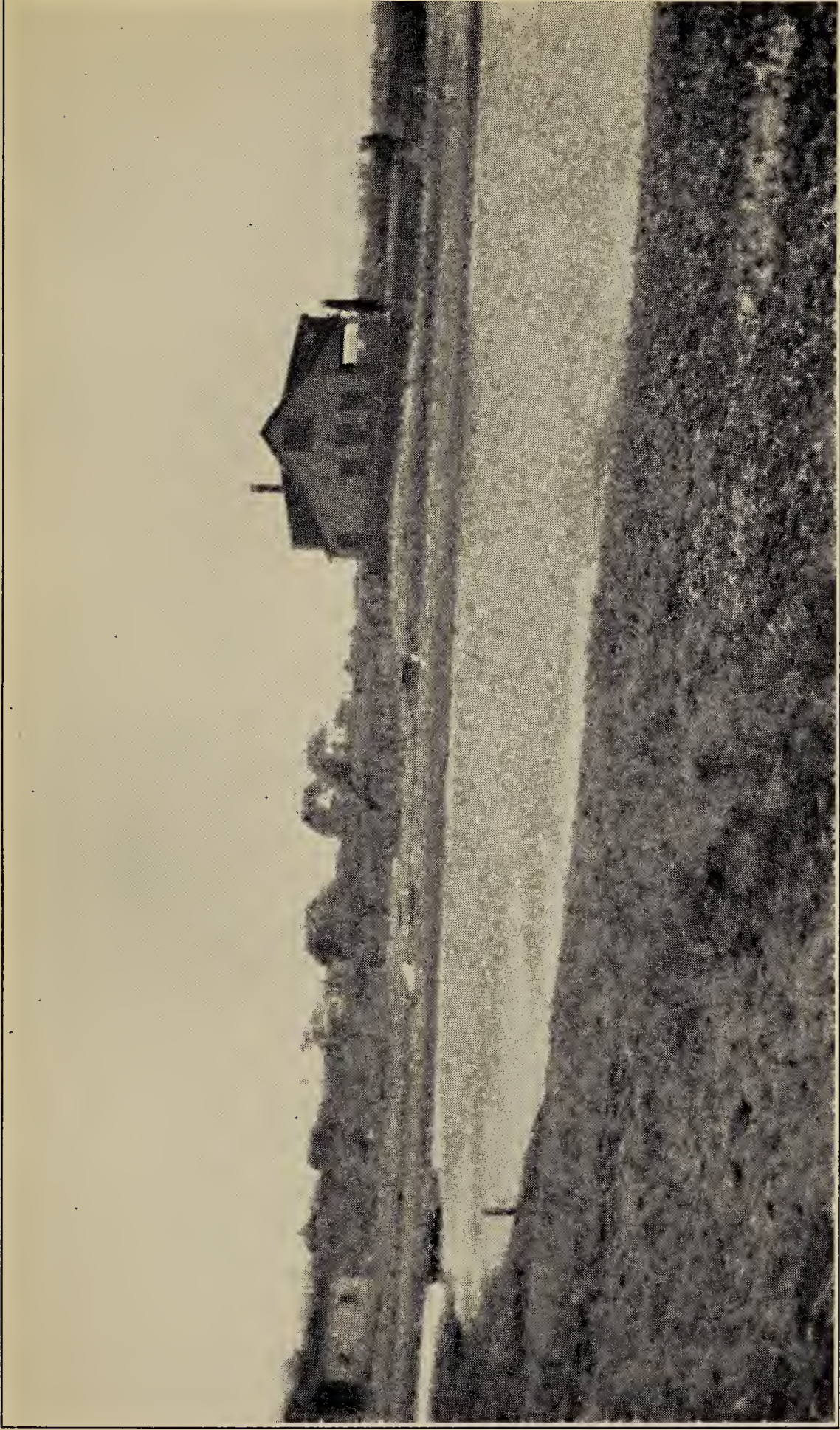
'... meeting of the selectmen 27:2:1654,¹ Mr Curwin, Capt Hathorne, Mr. Conant, Jno Porter, Jeffrey Massey, Mr. Price, and Edmund Batter being present. Graunted to Henry Scerry all yt upland Lying within ye fence of Jno Bachelder yt doth fence in his salt marsh on Ryal Side provided itt must Lye in Common when ye Crop is taken from itt.' Copy made by Jno. Price, recorder.

This grant to Henry Skerry covered the two points of land which were the subject of the controversy. The Town presented this copy of the records to the Court to show that the land had been disposed of by official action and a record made of the vote, and this appeared sufficient for the town to uphold the claim of Mr. Read to the land under the deed from Mr. Skerry:

Deed, dated October 8, 1673,² given by Henry Skerry, Sr., of Salem, to Abraham Reade: a certain parcell or parcells of land or two poynts of land containing by estimation about six acres of land in & belonging to the sd poynts or necks of land situated lying & being on Ryalls side in Willistones River soe called it being the two necks of land that lyes below the stonie cove soe cal'd down the River to the southward, it being all my Right that I had given me by the Towne of Salem in that place, the salt marsh yt lyes at the

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 177.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 4, leaf 148.



REID'S AND NEWMAN'S

Ellingwood's Cove lies between the 'two points' which were granted to Henry Skerry in 1654

head of the cove between the two poynts excepted, being none of my land.

After consideration of the case, the Selectmen came to an agreement with the counsel of the Newman heirs, and early in the fall of 1677, issued a statement, which was signed by Attorney Epps. In this statement the Selectmen explained that the controversy had arisen in consequence of an error on the part of those appointed to lay out the land, they having exceeded any authority which the town had given.

Upon confirming the grant of forty-four acres to Mrs. Newman, the town received from Attorney Epps a release of 'all Claime or p'tence to ye Land before mentioned posessed by Abraham Read.'¹

Whereas we Richard Leach & frances nurse were desired by the selectmen of Salem to lay out upon Royall Side a parcell of Land for mrs Newman Containeing forty four acres and to make returne thereof Wee haue accordingly, being desired by Daniell Epps senr of Ipswich, on 3 day of July 1678 performed the same in the manner following viz. after the point the Salthouse point was layd out wch Contained about seven acres the line was run neare wollistone river side leauing Abraham Reads land being two small necks, and is bounded by a Cove on the lower side about three rods more into the land then the foundation of an old Oven that mr Winthrop built many yeares agou, and from thence to Reades line runs to the Creke about six rods below the parting of the salt & fresh water when the tide is up upon stonie Brooke wher ther is two Small old stumps a litle aboue high water marke, and the aforesd line run by Wollistons riuer and Reads land to the sd stumps one hundred and foure rods and then we turned upon a kind of whele upon the north eight rods where we laid

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 2, pages 244-245.

some stones upon a kind of a pointing rock and extended the line fifty two rods into the woods North and by east where we came to a little kind of a meadow ground & upon the east and by south of the same we marked two small walnut treese and layd a heap of stones betwen ym and from thence the line runs east and south one hundred and twelve rods to the brow of a steep rocky hill wher we marked a small walnut tree & layd Rocks about it the line being about one hundred and twelve rods in length and from thence to yt part of a stone wall that is against a litle cross stone wall to the uper end of a strip of marsh that lieth against a muddy coue between the Salt house (that was) point & it the line contayneing neare yt coue at the south east end fifty two Rods as wollistons riuer from sd step hill to the place we first Began as witness our hands This 3 July 1678 ¹

The R mark	The I mark	Daniell Epps
of	of	
Richd Leach	fr nurse	

The lands granted to John Leach, John Batchelder, and John Green under the general lease of the town of Salem February 1, 1677, bounded the Newman lot on the north and east, and while the bounds of the grant appear to have been defined only by certain marks, the walls built by the other grantees, as shown in the survey of 1850, a great part of which are still standing, show plainly the confines of the Newman grant, and in the description of the Batchelder lease, 'Mr Newmans line' and 'Newmans corner' are mentioned.

From 'Stoney Cove' the bed rocks of a stone wall about eight rods in length mark plainly 'the whele to the north' leading directly to 'a kind of a pointing rock' resting in the identical spot where it was placed by

¹ Salem Town Records, Book of Grants.



THE 'POINTING ROCK' AT STONEY COVE

Designated by Richard Leach and Francis Nurse, July 3, 1678, as a boundary mark of the land granted to John Winthrop, Jr.

Francis Nurse and Richard Leach, two and one half centuries ago.

After Mrs. Newman recovered her claim, she petitioned the Court as administratrix of her deceased husband's estate to sell some of the land:

Court held at Ipswich, Apr. 24, 1677. Mr Daniell Epps attorney to Mrs. Newman, relict and administratrix of the estate of Mr Antepas Newman late of Wenhan, desiring liberty to make sale of some land for the payment of debtd, court granted liberty to sell that land on Royall side in Salem. ¹

Instead of selling the Ryal Side land, she mortgaged a portion of it to Captain John Hull, of Boston, May 21, 1681,² and by him it was assigned to Mary Green, widow of John Green, July 31, 1691.

On August 9, 1683,³ John Newman, of Salem, merchant, a son of Rev. Antepas Newman, sold to John Green, yeoman, for the sum of thirty pounds, the Salt House Point of ten acres. Mr. Green evidently intended to buy the entire Newman lot, but as he died January 1, 1690/1, his widow, Mary, on July 31, 1691,⁴ received a deed from Elizabeth Endicott and her son, John Newman, as administrators, conveying the remaining land upon payment of fifty pounds. This deed covered forty-four acres, 'bounded southwest by land of Abraham Read & river called Wooleston, Northwest by the hi way for the Proprietors of Royall side to goe to Stoney Cove,

¹ Records of the Quarterly Courts for Essex County, volume 6, page 278.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 6, leaf 2.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 6, leaf 90.

⁴ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 9 leaf, 22.

North east by land of heirs of John Bachelor & heirs of John Green & elsewhere by Basse river being all granted to Mrs Elizabeth Endicott formerly Mrs Elizabeth Newman in yt place.'

The deed also acknowledged the former payment of thirty pounds by John Green to John Newman in 1638 for the Salt House Point, and therefore gave the Green estate possession of the entire Newman grant of forty-four acres for the sum of eighty pounds, or at the rate of about nine dollars per acre.

On May 8, 1688,¹ Mr. Read sold to John Green, for the sum of four pounds, the southeast part of the large point containing 'about two acres bounded northwest by land of Read and on the southeast by Ellingwoods marsh ground till it comes to Mr. Newman's line.' March 19, 1689,² John Green conveyed this lot to John Cresy, of Salem, tailor, for the sum of four pounds and fifteen shillings. The large point was thus divided by a line from the river, northeast to the Newman wall. The smaller point of land and the northwest part of the larger point, on which the house stood, was sold by Abraham Read, on October 22, 1695,³ to John Cresy,⁴ of Salem, tailor, for the sum of fifteen pounds. 'Two small necks of land excepting small partition of marsh ground belonging to ye Ellingwoods, Ryall Side & contain 3 acres more or less, of upland and marsh with

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 8, leaf 84.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 10, leaf 31.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 11, leaf 61.

⁴ The name Cresy is spelled in this book as John Cresy spelled it in his signature to his will. Brothers and near relatives of John Cresy spelled the name differently. In the old records the name of this family is found in thirteen different forms.

dwelling house, fruit trees, fences &c., being ye whole of the said Reads lands at Ryall Side.'

John Cresy died in 1735, leaving a will in which he devised this portion of his estate to his sons, Daniel and Job. Daniel lived here a short time after his father's death, removing to Andover. March 1, 1737,¹ Daniel and Job Cressy sold to their brother, Joseph, all their interest in the property for the sum of four hundred dollars.

Joseph Cressy lived here for a number of years, disposing of the property to James Smith, April 1, 1765.² In the division of James Smith's estate, the lots were assigned to his widow, Abigail, as dower, and mentioned as 'Abigail's two points.' Abigail married Peter Lovett, and the lots were sold by them in 1791³ to Benjamin Very, whose widow, Mary, conveyed the two points by several deeds to Daniel Foster in 1798.⁴

By deeds of November 26, 1798,⁵ and August 3, 1818,⁶ Foster conveyed the property to Bartholomew Wallis, who, on December 28, 1823,⁷ sold the two points to John Porter, for the sum of five hundred and seventeen dollars. The upper or larger of the two points remained in the possession of the Porter estate until it was purchased by Benjamin L. Ober, August 6, 1929,⁸ and sold

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 79, leaf 166, and book 79, leaf 173.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 113, leaf 275.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 160, leaf 18.

⁴ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 165, leaf 243.

⁵ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 167, leaf 206.

⁶ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 217, leaf 249.

⁷ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 312, leaf 15.

⁸ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2815, leaf 455.

by him to the City of Beverly, March 21, 1930,¹ to be used for playground purposes.

The lower or smaller point is owned and occupied by Mr. Robert Robertson, who maintains there a summer residence, having purchased the point of the Porter estate in 1903.

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2840, leaf 121.

LANDS OF WILLIAM KING

WILLIAM KING was a freeman as early as 1636 and was granted forty acres of land by the Town of Salem in the fall of that year.¹ On February 4, 1638/9, he petitioned the Salem Selectmen 'to have the land layed out that the Town had granted him.'²

The land granted to Mr. King was bounded east and south by Bass River, the northerly point being at about the junction of Matthies and McKay Streets and from that point, southwesterly as the wall runs; thence southeasterly to the river at a point west of the School for the Deaf on Elliott Street, near Herrick's Bridge. The cove running into the land at this point was formerly called 'King's Cove.'

Mr. King chose wisely in selecting this site for his settlement. The land is of high elevation, surrounded by water on the south and east, and, though some of it could be used only for grazing purposes, a large portion of its acreage contained as good tillage land as can be found in the district.

The territory within the boundaries of the granted lands is now traversed by Echo Avenue, Pierson Street, Glidden Street, Sturtevant Street, Matthies Street, and a portion of McKay Street.

Within the lands assigned to King, John Friend obtained two acres of land on which he erected his dwell-

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 21.

² Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 80.

ing-house, the site of which is the present junction of McKay and Elliott Streets, and near by he located his cornmill.

The acreage exceeded forty, as an early instrument contains an estimate of fifty acres. Mr. King built a house near the river on the north portion of his land and lived there until he died in 1650, intestate. The widow, Dorothea, and William, the eldest son, were ordered by the Court on February 3, 1650,¹ to dispose of the estate, which was appraised at one hundred and twelve pounds, from which William, the eldest, was to have a double portion of twenty pounds; Samuel, John, Hannah, Mehitabel, and Deliverance were to have ten pounds each, and Mary, wife of John Scudder, and Katherine, wife of John Swaisy, five pounds each.

John was to serve his brother, William, seven years, and Samuel was to serve him three years. By agreement with his mother, William had the homestead.² The agreement was sworn to by John Weston, July 1, 1685.

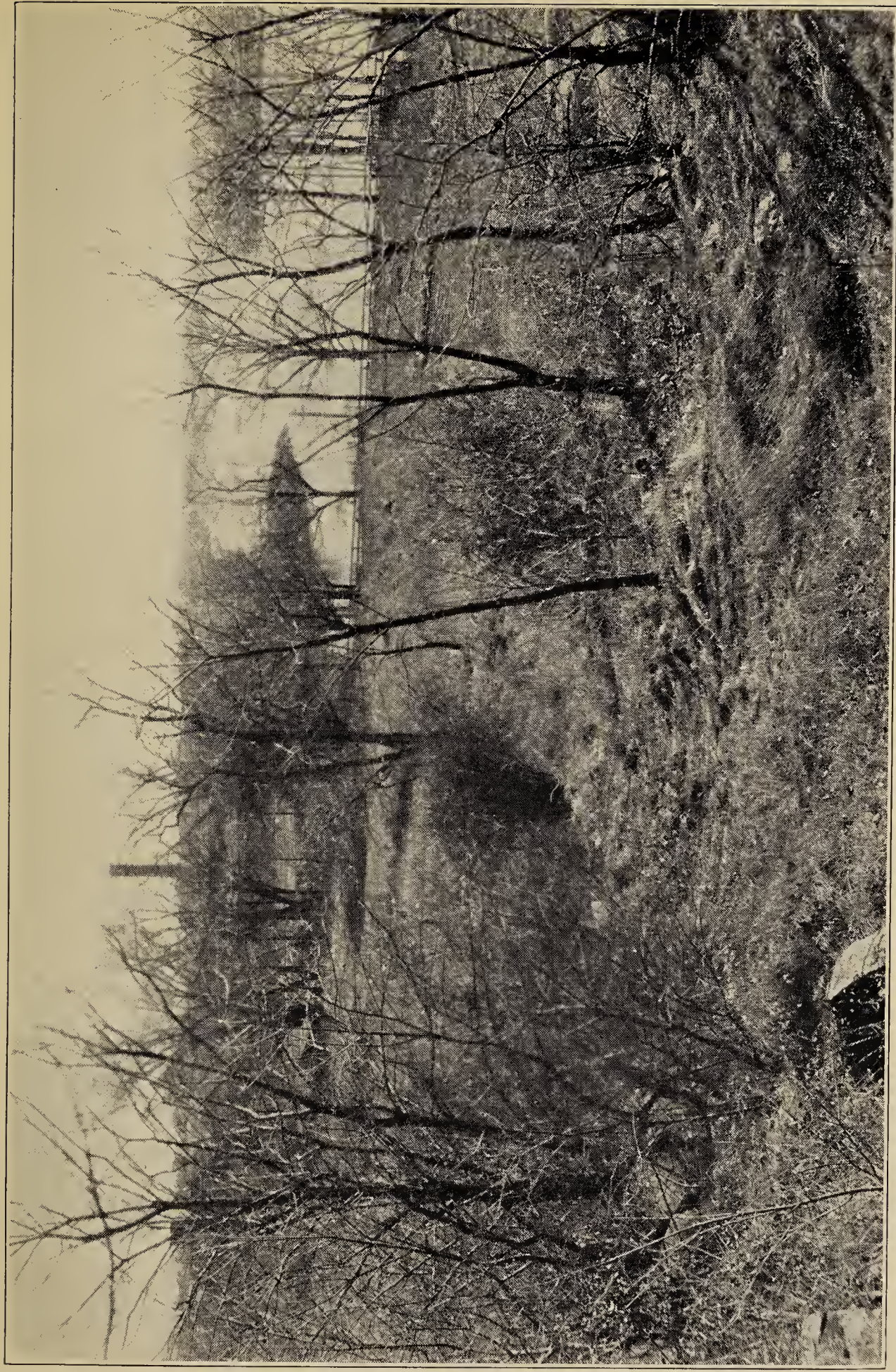
William King, Jr., who became possessed of the estate, improved the farm of his father and also worked as a cooper. While yet a very young man, he became at his father's death the main hand of support for his mother and several children.

On December 14, 1665,³ he sold to Robert Stone, for forty-seven pounds, 'About twenty acres upland and one and one half acres salt marsh adjoining it being ye one half of my forty acres upland and three acres marsh

¹ Records of the Quarterly Courts for Essex County, volume 1, page 206.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 13, leaf 246.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 4, leaf 48.



KING'S LANE, LOOKING SOUTH

The lane led directly to the Cornmill and was much used by those living in northern territory, who carried grists to the mill

adjoining situated and lying at ye head of Basse river and bounded with ye said river to ye east and with the land of Abram Warren to the northwest and west, on ye South west with ye land of John Bachelor... being the one half of all ye land I have lying in that place at Basse River Head the whole containing forty three acres with one half of all the housing.'

The half of this property conveyed by this deed lay on the east side of the granted lands and was bounded by Bass River on the east and south. The house stood near the river, near the junction of Matthies and McKay Streets, and was occupied by the Kings and Stones until William built for himself, about ten years later, a new house on his own division on the west side of the lane which ran south to the cornmill.

King had two neighbors, Thomas Robbins and John Kitchin, both of whom had acquired house lots of King, and, as they appear to have been well situated, he purchased land of Robbins, June 2, 1676,¹ on which he built his house, the deed describing the lot purchased as a 'part of land adjoining dwelling house of Thomas Robbins and lyes next vs the lane and adjoins to ld of John Kitchin about eight, one half poles—17, upon wch sd land William King having lately built a dwelling house... so that the bounds are sd lane east and fence of Kitchin south and land of sd Robbins north and west.'

These three houses were thus located on the west side of the lane (King's Lane) which ran from Elliott Street, north along the west side of the wall which runs parallel with Pierson Street.

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 4, leaf 138.

King took an active part in questions concerning the laying-out of the highways in the early days of the settlement. His dispute with Roger Haskell, 'about a highway from the mill to the meeting house,' was settled by the Salem Selectmen September 14, 1657,¹ and resulted in the laying-out of Mill Street.

A short time prior to this event, King was a party to another dispute about a way, which was disposed of at a meeting of the Selectmen, June 8, 1657:²

Its agreed that John Porter Jacob Barney & Jefferie Massey haue hereby full power and authoritie to heare and determyne a Certaine Difference depending betwixt William King John Bachellor Nicholas Heaward &c on the one ptye & Ensign Dixey Josiah Roots & Samuel Corning on the oth(er) ptie concerning a drift way from the head of bass riuier into Royalls neck & the pties are hereby required to meete together at the house of William Kings the 16th of this p'sent month wch will be on the third day Come seavenight at 8 a clock in the morning.

To conform to this requirement the committee would have met at King's house on a Tuesday morning seven nights after the date of the vote. No report of this committee appears in the records, but it is evident that there was no highway from northern territory to the Wooleston River prior to this time. The early necessity for such a way for these families is easily seen and its location is readily determined, as it passed through the lands of the parties in interest except that of King, but his lane was connected with it.

It was brought from the 'Countryway' from nearly

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 207.

² Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 201.

the junction of Cabot and Dodge Streets and passed through the Raymond, Dodge, Haywood, and Batchelder lands to Abraham Warren's house lot, and, coming out of what is now the golf grounds, passed on through the Green lands to the shore lands of Corning and Dixie at Salt House Point. This was 'the way into Royall Side.'

There were four families living at the northern part of the King lands, that of William King, of Robert Stone, of John Kitchin, and of Thomas Robbins. These, with other families living adjacent, comprised a small colony of Quakers, who, it appears, gave the authorities no end of annoyance. Attendance at religious service was compulsory in the early days, but it was not without the service of the constable that the rule was respected in many cases and the continued absence of these people indicated total disregard or disrespect for the established Church. In the records of the Quarterly Courts, there are nearly a score of recorded prosecutions against these people for this offense.

As an instance: in November, 1660,¹ Katherine, wife of William King, Sara, wife of Robert Stone, and Elizabeth, wife of John Kitchin, were presented at Salem Court for 'frequent absence from the public ordinances; and as a member of the jury, Thomas Robbins was obliged to pass judgment on the conduct of his neighbors. Mrs. King and Mrs. Kitchin were persistent absentees, and as all were apprehended and fined on so many occasions, they were finally threatened with 'imprisonment at the gaol at Ipswich.'

¹ Records of the Quarterly Courts for Essex County, volume 2, page 265.

William King seems to have been regarded by the Court as the chief offender and his influence over his neighbors was the probable cause for this attitude of defiance, for, on October 8, 1659, he was sentenced to be whipped and banished from the colony. He was not allowed to return to his home until May 22, 1661, and, upon signifying his willingness to withdraw from the Quakers, was pardoned.

A short time after King was pardoned, the authorities relaxed from their severe intolerance of the Quakers, but the records show that in this neighborhood for several years, there was a ceaseless and brutal persecution of a small community of people, who, aside from their religious conflicts with the authorities, were industrious, peaceable, and law-abiding.

Vagabondage was prevalent to some extent in these times, but those who practiced this manner of living were complained of by the inhabitants and dealt with severely by the Court. They were a source of considerable annoyance to the planters, from whom they would steal food, milk their cows, and by sleeping in barns subject the property to the liability of fire.

King had a thrilling session with this element of society, and, in the interest of peace, complained of the intruders. At Salem Commissioners' Court, January 30, 1679, complaint was made of one Samuel Foster and his wife for being at William King's house, disturbing the family, and using very threatening words. The Court found them 'to be wandering vagabond persons and the man was ordered to be whipped out of town at the carts tail 10 stripes and the woman to ride in the

cart.' They were to be passed along to 'constables of Salem, Linne, Boston, Roxburee and Dedham' and so conveyed out of the colony.

William King died in 1684, possessed of the house in which he lived, a one-half interest in the house occupied by Robert Stone, and one half of the lands granted to his father.

By will, proved November 25, 1684, he devised one half of his real estate to his wife, Katherine, for her life, and at her death this portion was to go to whom his wife by will should appoint. In her will, dated June 11, 1708, proved January 1, 1718, she gave to her nephew or cousin, Samuel Stone, and to her niece, Sarah Manning, wife of Jacob Manning, of Salem, all her estate real and personal.

The other one half was devised by William King to his brother's sons, 'either the eldest or the youngest as that hath most need of it as my brother shall judge meet.'

The estate was divided June 18, 1719¹: 'And whereas William and Katherine left a dwelling house and about 12 or 13 rods of land in Salem bounded South West & North on land of Bethia Kitchen & east on ye lane yt leads to ye North River & also a tract about 40 or 50 acres Upland & Marsh, situated in Salem at or near a place called Royall side bounded by land of John Green decd on northwest with straight line from stump in fence to Oak tree standing by ye Mill Pond and otherwise mostly with the Mill Pond & river yt runs up befor ye house yt was & formerly stood on sd land. Now for Amicable settling of the estate.'

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 36, leaf 106.

To Samuel Stone there was given one quarter part; to Jacob Manning, in right of his wife, Sarah, one quarter part; to Samuel King, of Southold, Long Island, a brother of William King, one quarter part, and the remaining one quarter part was divided among the heirs of his deceased brother, John, as follows: to Samuel and William, one sixteenth each; to six children of a son, John, deceased, one sixteenth; and to seven children of a son, Jonathan, deceased, one sixteenth.

The instrument of partition, June, 1719, shows that the house built by William King, Jr., in 1675, was still standing on the west side of the lane, but the house built by his father in 1636, which stood near the river, was gone. It stood for about eighty years and was one of the earliest erected on the Cape Ann side. As the old house stood at the northern end of the granted lands of William King, Sr., and 'river yt runs up befor ye house,' its location was probably near the house of Mr. Stuart M. Leach.

On November 29, 1710,¹ Samuel King, the second brother of William, quitclaimed to his youngest son, John, all right, title, and interest 'as he ye sd Samuel King hath or ought to have' in the property. 'Whereas William King decd eldest brother of sd Samuel at time of his decease in possession of several tracts of Upland & Meadow in Salem and whereas sd William did not leave issue of his body to inherit neither did in his lifetime make any legal conveyance from ye said Samuel King his second brother who is ye undoubted heir to ye same.'

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 36, leaf 106.

In the same year of the settlement of the King estate, all the property devised by William King and his wife, Katherine, was sold by the various heirs and came into the possession largely of the Herricks and Dodges.

Katherine, the widow, probably did not live on the farm for several years prior to her death, for she leased the house to Ebenezer Woodberry, who owned the corn-mill in 1702, and who worked with his father-in-law, John Dodge, as a miller prior to that time. Mr. Woodberry died in 1714, but, as the house was under lease to him, his widow occupied it at the time it was sold, 1719.

On January 8, 1718/19,¹ Samuel King, the eldest son of a deceased brother, sold to Jonathan Dodge 'All interest and right in a certain house and about forty acres of land in Salem, bounded by land of John Green on the northwest as the wall now standeth and east and south upon ye Mill pond and ye land of Ebenezer Woodberry decd or howsoever bounded, being that house and land leased by Katherine King ye widow of William King to Ebenezer Woodberry, Miller, and now in occupation of Hannah the widow of Said Ebenezer.'

June 24, 1719,² William, a brother of Samuel, conveyed to Jonathan Dodge his share of one sixteenth, and on June 29, 1719,³ John King sold to Mr. Dodge the one quarter part which his father, Samuel, had quit-claimed to him in 1710. Mr. Dodge sold the property acquired under these deeds to William Elliott, July 10, 1719.

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 35, leaf 94.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 35, leaf 209.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 37, leaf 21.

The heirs of Jonathan King, and other holders of smaller parts, sold their interest to Jacob Manning, who, with Samuel Stone, sold to Captain Joseph Herrick, Samuel Herrick, and Joseph Tuck, February 22, 1719,¹ 'All that moiety or one half of a certain farm in Salem at or nigh a place known by ye name of Royall Side called King's farm.'

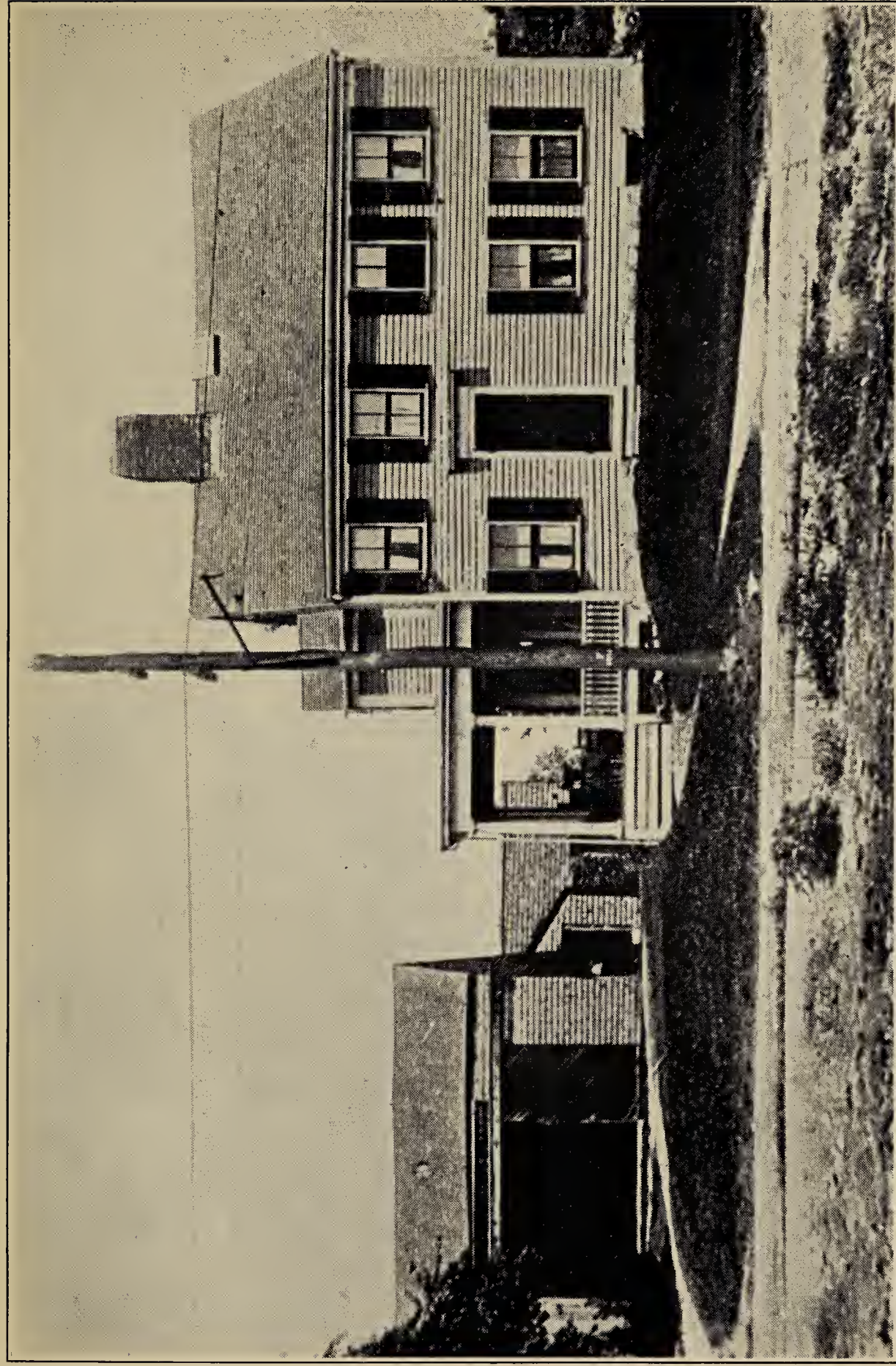
Joseph Herrick sold one quarter part of his right to Moses Gage, fisherman, in 1720. John Tuck, in 1721, sold to Joseph Herrick and his son, Henry, his rights in the salt marsh, and, in 1727, he conveyed to Henry Herrick his upland, 'bounded by land of Moses Gage and Andrew Elliott on the east and upon the same line thirty five poles and one third to a stake between Jonathan Green and the premises and from thence southwest twenty poles to a stake and from thence southeast by ye said Herricks fence to ye salt marsh.' On this lot the buildings of the Beverly School for the Deaf now stand.

These lands were later sold by Henry Herrick to William Elliott, and from this purchase, Mr. Elliott sold to Andrew Elliott, gentleman, June 10, 1789,² about fifty-five rods of upland, 'southeast by road between my house and Woodberrys mills, nine poles, twelve feet, northeast by land of Zachariah Gage, six poles, by my own land, eight poles-twelve feet, southwest by my own land six poles to the road.'

On this lot Andrew Elliott built his house, and it still stands at what is now the easterly corner of the junction of Echo Avenue and Elliott Street.

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 35, leaf 239.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 238, leaf 8.



ANDREW ELLIOTT HOUSE

Built about 1790

William Elliott's house was on the site of the Beverly School for the Deaf. The west boundary of the Herrick lot was marked by a wall, the bed rocks of which are still in place, running to the salt marsh at about the location of the bridge on Green Street, which was known for many years as 'Herrick's Bridge.' This wall was the western boundary of the King grant.

The farm of William Elliott passed to the possession of William Elliott, 2d, whose widow, Hitty Elliott, sold to Edith K. Dodge, wife of William E. Dodge, on November 30, 1836,¹ 'two thirds of an undivided farm formerly belonging to William Elliott,' containing about forty acres, with the dwelling-house, and on the same date the remaining one third was sold by Hitty Elliott to William E. Dodge.²

The house which Andrew Elliott built on the land he bought from William Elliott in 1789 remained his home until his death. His heirs sold their interest in the estate to Nathaniel Friend, March 22, 1825.³

On April 8, 1825,⁴ Nathaniel Friend conveyed to Joseph Friend and his wife, Ruth, an undivided one half 'of the homestead of the late Andrew Elliott near Davis Mills... also all the chambers in the dwelling house,... an undivided one half of the cellar, one half of the garrett and one half of about two acres of land around the house to use in common, the cellar stairs, back chamber stairs and entry and garrett stairs.'

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 295, leaf 247.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 295, leaf 246.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 238, leaf 26.

⁴ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 239, leaf 64.

February 19, 1829,¹ Mr. Friend sold the remaining one half to Joseph Masury.

The Friends sold their interest on April 27, 1829,² to Aaron Cressy, and on November 11, 1830,³ Nicholas Dodge, administrator of the estate of Joseph Masury, sold to Mr. Cressy an undivided one half of the land with the lower part of the dwelling-house, 'subject to those restrictions and privileges set forth in the deed of Nathaniel Friend to Joseph Friend and wife Ruth.'

Aaron Cressy conveyed the property to his son, George H. Cressy, January 12, 1873.⁴ Alterations and improvements in the house and grounds have changed the old Andrew Elliott estate into an attractive and well-appointed homestead.

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 253, leaf 138.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 253, leaf 48.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 257, leaf 302.

⁴ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 873, leaf 137.

ROBERT STONE ESTATE

ROBERT STONE died in 1690 and his estate was assigned to his eldest son, Samuel, February 6, 1693/4. He was a brother of Katherine, wife of William King, and by occupation was a fisherman.

The estate of Samuel Stone came into the possession largely of his son, Robert. The Stone lands, which represented the eastern one half of the granted lands of William King, originally had a small frontage on Elliott Street from King's Lane, easterly.

Robert bought land of William Elliott in 1727, one half of which he sold to Benjamin Elliott in 1739, who, by purchase from the King heirs, Robert and John Stone, became possessed of one half of the Stone lands. In the partition of the estate of Robert Stone, 2d, April 5, 1752,¹ Benjamin Elliott was assigned the western half and the surviving heirs, the widow, Elizabeth, John, and a minor son, Zachariah, the eastern part, each division having on the highway (Elliott Street) a frontage of about five poles.

The land of Benjamin Elliott was at his death divided among his heirs, the widow, Abigail, and daughters, Jane Shale, Rebecca Bowles, and Hannah, wife of Daniel Wallis, and sold by them to Bartholmew Wallis, by several deeds — September 17, 1800, June 1, 1801, and April 10, 1811.

On April 7, 1824,² Mr. Wallis sold this lot to Israel

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 99, leaf 33.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 235, leaf 107.

Wallis, the bounds being, 'south by the highway, west by land of Zachariah Gage and William Elliott, north by said Elliott to the mill pond, thence by the mill pond to land of John Stone, east by land of John Stone to the highway.' The flats and mud wharves are included in this deed which conveyed about twelve acres.

Israel Wallis sold this property to Thomas Liffen, September 10, 1858.¹ Osmond Gage, who possessed the Gage four-acre lot, sold it on April 9, 1848,² to Perkins Foster, who built a house thereon. Mr. Foster lived here about fifteen years and sold the property to Thomas Liffen, August 26, 1865.³ This gave to Mr. Liffen possession of the Gage and Benjamin Elliott lands.

Seven acres of land lying to the east of the Elliott lot was the property of John Stone, which, at his death, fell to the possession of his sons, Israel and James.

Lying to the east of this lot, and bounded by the Woodberry estate and the mill pond, was a five-acre lot, one half of which was set off to Elizabeth, widow of Robert Stone, and the other one half to a minor son, Zachariah, in the partition of the estate, April 5, 1752. Zachariah also owned a four-acre lot along the mill pond and later possessed the dower. In the division of his estate, in 1786, the possession of these two lots fell to his daughter, Susannah, wife of Benjamin Standley.

In 1844, Aaron Dodge brought the five-acre lot of Welles Standley, and in 1856, purchased of the other heirs of Susannah Standley the four-acre lot. Mr.

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 578, leaf 183.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 397, leaf 77.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 691, leaf 287.

Dodge purchased also the Israel and James Stone lots in 1855 and 1856 respectively.

Lying east of the Stone lands and bordering the mill pond was the Woodberry estate, which included the cornmill and was sold in 1797 by Dr. Israel Woodberry to Thomas Davis, Jr., whose heirs conveyed the property in 1848 by several deeds to Aaron Dodge. Mr. Dodge sold the entire property of about twenty acres, house, barn, and mills, to Israel W. Dodge, February 13, 1871.¹

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 817, leaf 67.

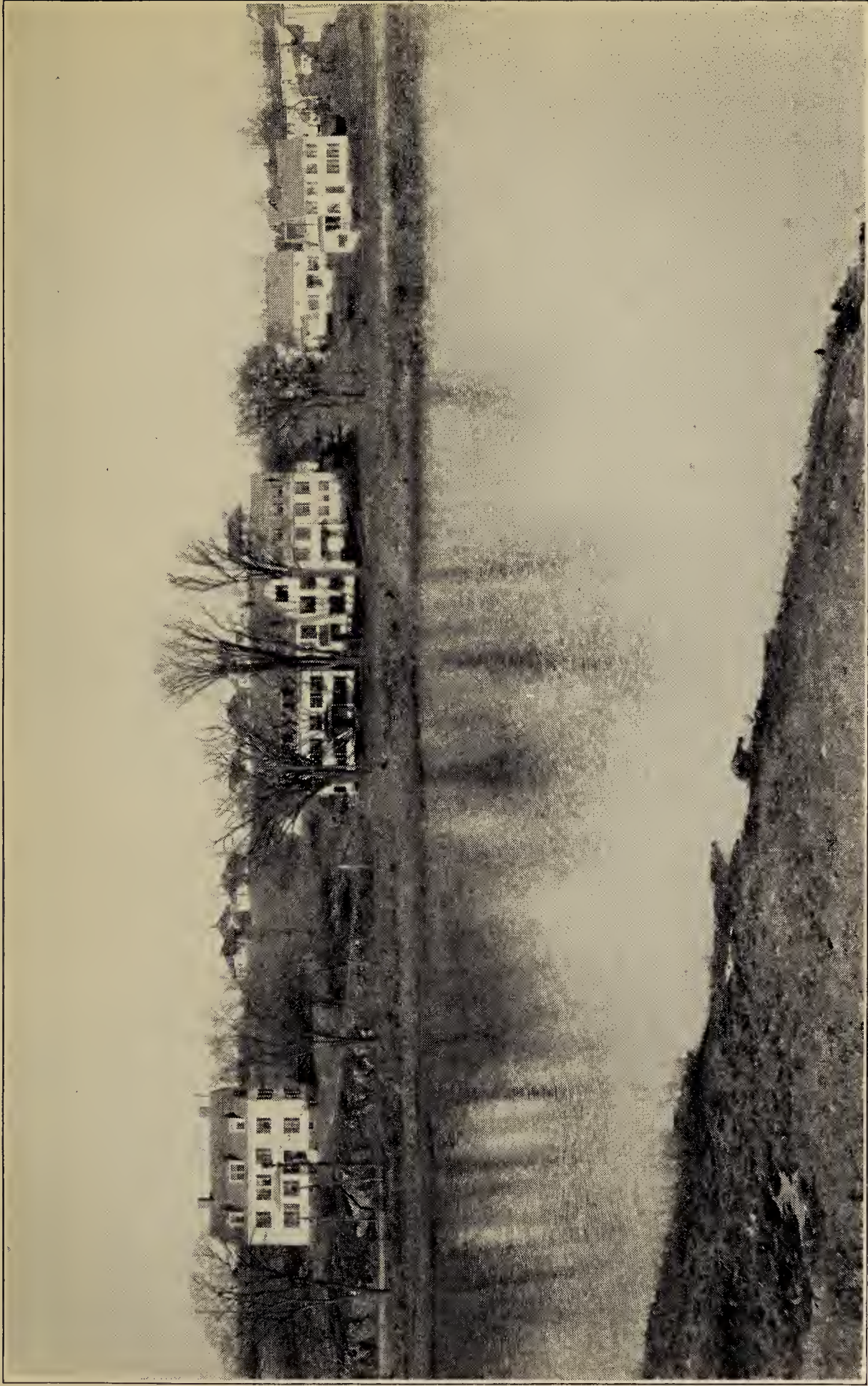
FAMILIES OF EARLY DAYS WHO LIVED NEAR KING'S COVE

FROM the records we learn that several families lived in the vicinity of King's Cove as early as 1650, but the location of their houses or cabins has not been a very easy task. The deeds conveying the title of their lots do not in any case provide metes, and the boundaries are only known by a careful checking-up by the aid of present landmarks and the testimony of various witnesses, where the lawful possession of the lands became matters of court record.

At this early date, it seems the exception rather than the rule that there should be a locality where so many families chose to live so closely, but the records plainly show that, no later than 1650, not less than eight families lived on the adjacent lands now traversed by Elliott Street, from John Friend's cornmill to the locality now occupied by the golf grounds and near the water of King's Cove, which lies in front of what is now the property of the Beverly School for the Deaf.

Here were John Friend, William King, Abraham Warren, John Batchelder, John Scudder, John Bulfinch, John Marston, and Nicholas Heyward. A few of these men sold their properties and removed after a residence here of several years, while others continued until their death.

From the records we learn of an occasional dispute, but rarely a personal conflict, and, although a case of



KING'S COVE

From the Green Lands looking north toward the lands of William King

'land grabbing' caused some disturbance of the peace, there is gathered the impression and actual knowledge by various means of information — testimony in court cases, marriages, friendly bargaining and long years of personal association — of the existence of a peaceable and contented neighborhood relationship.

The probable cause of this settlement was its convenience to the cove on Bass River. The waters at that time, being unpolluted, furnished to these families a considerable portion of their food, as several kinds of shellfish as well as salmon, bass, and other species were plentiful.

Some of these men followed their trades or established occupations, while others toiled in the combined work of the fisherman, lumberman, and planter. What is now Green Street was then the path or drift way which abutted the water, as Elliott Street from the School property to the vicinity of the golf grounds was not laid out until 1810.

JOHN FRIEND

John Friend's house was the most easterly one of the settlement, and was located at what is now the junction of McKay and Elliott Streets, on a two-acre lot which was originally a part of the King lands. He built his cornmill just across the way from his house, and, as the river was dammed by him in 1647 to secure power for his mill, his house was probably erected as early as that year.

Mr. Friend did not live here nor operate the mill for many years, as he was granted one hundred acres of

land at Manchester and lived there at the time of his death in 1655. He was the first miller on the 'Cape Ann Side.' He sold his house and mill to Lawrence Leach, but at what date is unknown, as Mr. Friend did not give to Mr. Leach a deed of the property.

Samuel Friend, a constable at Manchester and eldest son of John Friend, was the executor under his father's will and later gave a deed to William King and John Leach for the house and mill respectively.

WILLIAM KING

As the lands of William King and his settlement have been treated in a preceding chapter, not much space will be here given to this pioneer. He was one of the earliest of the settlers in this vicinity, a freeman in 1636 and a grantee of land by the Town of Salem in that year.¹ He lived near the head of Bass River until his death in 1650. His name was given the cove which lay before his lands.

JOHN SCUDDER

John Scudder was the eldest son of Thomas Scudder, who is referred to in the records as 'Olde Goodman Scudder.' John came from England when he was a very young man. His name appears in a list of passengers sailing on the vessel James in 1635, and his age is given as sixteen years.

On June 10, 1642,² 'At a pticular meeting of the 7 men. Granted to John Scudder a piece of ground con-

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 21.

² Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 113.

teyning half an acre to build an howse & for other uses nere to his 10 acre lott in Kings Cove to be laid out by the town.'

Mr. Scudder married Mary, the eldest daughter of his neighbor, William King, and built his house on the lot assigned him, later known as the Deacon Creesy place, on Elliott Street, opposite Green Street, and carried on his occupation as a tanner of leather for over twenty years on this place.

Court held at Salem April 28, 1650:¹ 'John Scuddr freed from training on account of his trade of a currier, because leather might spoil by a days absence. To pay 18 d. for each day that he was obliged to be away.' This record proves the location of a tannery, in the very earliest days of the Salem settlement, at Ryal Side.

Mr. Scudder removed to Southold, Long Island, where his wife's relatives resided, disposing of his property to his neighbor, John Batchelder, by deed dated May 31, 1665,² for the sum of fifteen pounds. By will, John Batchelder devised to his wife his dwelling-house 'during her naturall life, and then to be my son John Bachelors.'

John Batchelder, Jr., conveyed the property to his nephew, John Creesy, January 16, 1681,³ and the title remained in the descendants for over two hundred years.

NICHOLAS HEYWARD

Nicholas Heyward was early in the neighborhood. On November 9, 1642,⁴ there was 'Granted to Nicholas

¹ Quarterly Courts of Essex County, volume 1, page 193.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2, leaf 102.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 6, leaf 68.

⁴ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 115.

Heyward, a fisherman 10 acres.' 'To be laid out nere to brother kings lott.'

The Heyward lands lay on the north of the Scudder and King lands and are now occupied wholly by the golf course. There appears to be no probate record of Nicholas Heyward, but Nehemiah Heyward lived on these lands until he died in 1665.

Court at Ipswich, September 26, 1665: 'Anna Heyward was appointed administratrix of her husband Nehemiah Heyward's estate the latter having left a will with no executor named.'

In his will Heyward devised the property to his wife and, at her death, to descend to the children.

ABRAHAM WARREN

On December 18, 1635,¹ the Selectmen of Salem voted: 'That Abram Warren may have a ten acre lot and an howse lott.' This record shows that Abraham Warren was one of the first to take up a settlement at Ryal Side. The land assigned to Warren by this grant lay in the golf grounds north of the junction of Elliott and Green Streets. The 'howse lott' lay between the ten-acre lot and Elliott Street. Warren's well, which appears to have been taken as a landmark in several instances, stood near the fence of his neighbor, John Batchelder, who indicated it as a starting-point, when, by his will, he divided his land between his two sons.

Batchelder took up land next to Warren in 1639, and, as their divisional lines were not well defined, it caused some trouble between these men for several years and

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 11.

compelled Warren to answer to the Court for bad conduct.

Court at Salem, June 25, 1639. 'Abram Warren bound to good behavior for twelve months.'

'Att Salem June 25, 1639, ye 13th Court. Abram Warren bound in recognizance in X li for his good behavior until this tyme twelve months & then heare to appeare to answer what shall be further objected ageanst him or upon good behavior to be cleared.'

Warren's assignment of land was apparently not entirely satisfactory to him, and, by attempting to annex some of the common lands without permission of the town fathers, he caused his name to appear next as a trespasser. 'Meeting of the 7 men on July 10, 1650. Abram Warin havin fenced in about 8 or 10 acres by estimation of the Town Comon without leave from the Town and havin broken up a pt of it and planted it ffor wch act of his he is fined 20 s and is inioned to lay it open to the Comon againe by the end of the 8th month next.'

Further trouble came into Warren's life caused by land disputes and his misconduct, which were settled by both the court and the Selectmen. He really appears to have been the disturbing element in the neighborhood.

On March 20, 1661,¹ Warren bought two ten-acre lots of Edmund Marshall, which were granted to Marshall in 1649, on one of which was a dwelling-house. A part of this land is now included in the golf grounds. The first of these lots lay north of his homestead lot which he had

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2, leaf 39.

evidently retired from, as on November 18, 1661, there was 'Granted to Jno Green two acres of land where Abraham Warren lived on Ryall side to be layd out by Jeffy masey.' Perhaps for the purpose of removing any question of title, he conveyed to John Green, May 13, 1672,¹ two small lots of land, both 'lying outside the sd Abrams land.'

The land of Warren lying on the north of William King extended to Bass River and is fairly well described in the deed from Green to Heyward in 1680. All his lands in this vicinity later passed into the Green estate.

These records, in addition to an occasional jury service, comprise about all that can be found concerning the life of this pioneer. His daughter, Mary, who appears to have been his only descendant, married John Green, October 7, 1659. Warren survived his wife and died intestate in 1689. The inventory of his property returned by his son-in-law, John Green, indicates that Warren died very poor in estate.

JOHN MARSTON

John Marston was granted land at Ryal Side, August 31, 1649.² The land granted to Mr. Marston lay west of the golf grounds and later became a part of the Batchelder lands. Mr. Marston evidently lived there a long time according to testimony given by him in court, in a case involving possession of land adjacent to his homestead.

Batchelder, Scudder, and Marston were near neigh-

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 3, leaf 154.

² Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 159.



JOSEPH MASURY HOUSE

On lands of John Marston during the ownership of Mr. Zina Goodell

bors. At a meeting of the seven men, April 20, 1646, it was 'Ordered That the little strip of ground that is between Ryalls Side & the 10 acre lotts of John Bachelor & John Marston & befor the lot of John Scudder where he dwelleth shall be given to the said 3 men John Bachelor & John Marston & John Scudder to be divided amongst them as they shall agree.'

This lot is the narrow piece of land which lies between Green Street and the water of the creek and referred to in later years as 'the close.'

Mr. Marston's name is occasionally found in the records as a juryman and as a witness. In the early part of the nineteenth century, the site of his homestead became that of Joseph Masury, a large landowner at Ryal Side, and who died in 1829. In the settlement of Mr. Masury's estate, his homestead was sold to Abraham K. Young, April 10, 1838.¹ Mr. Young lived here for over twenty years, disposing of the place to John M. Taylor, May 11, 1860.²

Mr. Taylor conveyed the property to Andrew Wallis, August 19, 1871,³ who sold it to George H. Pierson, of Salem, September 8, 1873.⁴

At Mr. Pierson's death, his widow, Mary J. Pierson, conveyed the property to Mr. Zina Goodell, of Salem, November 8, 1881,⁵ who used the place as a summer residence for several years. Mr. Goodell, who was a prominent business man of Salem for many years, en-

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 306, leaf 3.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 795, leaf 194.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 832, leaf 218.

⁴ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 888, leaf 232.

⁵ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1070, leaf 20.

joyed the place during his ownership, as it afforded, as he stated, 'a quiet and pleasant retreat from business cares.'

On June 19, 1894,¹ Mr. Goodell sold the property to Fred W. Holden, who, after a residence of about ten years, removed the old Masury house, building upon its site a new house for his occupancy.

JOHN BULFINCH

Salem Town Records, November 23, 1642:² 'Brother Bulfinch' was included in a list of several others who were 'granted ten acre lots to be laid out near Brother Kings lot.' The lot assigned to Mr. Bulfinch is on the south side of Elliott Street and is covered by Northern, Eastern, and Hillside Avenues. He lived here about five years, and, upon removing to England, left his property in charge of Jeffrey Massey, a selectman, who, apparently without authority, sold the lot to William Towne.

Several conveyances of the lot occurred between that time and 1680, in which year Katherine Bell, daughter and administratrix of the estate of her father, John Bulfinch, brought an action of trespass against John Batchelder, 2d, who possessed the lot at that time.

This case affords very good information of the definite location of various lots and homesteads in this vicinity at this early date.

Court at Ipswich, March 29, 1681:³ 'Katheren Bell, daughter and administratrix of the estate of John

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1414, leaf 535.

² Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 115.

³ Records of the Quarterly Courts for Essex County, volume 8, page 71.

Buffing, (Bulfinch) vs John Bachelour, For cutting and felling lumber, etc.

'Verdict for defendant. Writ dated January 12, 1680/1, was served by Henry Skerry Marshal of Salem by attachment of three swine, a cart and wheel of defendant.'

December 17, 1680, William King and John Marston appraised the damage at seven pounds:

William King, aged about 53 years, and John Marston, aged 65 years, deposed that when they went to appraise the damage they found the house, barn and land to be John Bulfinche's. Deponents were neighbors and the land was bounded by land now called Royal side on the south and on the east end by John Scudders land, and for about twenty two years it lay open as common.

John Marston Sr. deposed concerning Bulfinches lot on Ryals neck that in 1658 he went over it and it was not fenced in then and about thirty five or six years since he lived upon a lot near it. Jeffrey Mercie often told him that Bulfinches lot lay at the head of deponents fence adjoining Henry Cook's lot, then so called by those who lived there eastward. Also Bulfinch himself before he went to England told him the same and Mercie was left to look after it.

Further we 5 or 6 families of us (at least 36 years agoe) did call a plaine rising hill in the said Bulfinshes lot, bulfinses hill, and so it hold that name to this day: this to prevent mistake in my former testimony that call henry cooks lot John Scudders and though John Scudder then had bought it yet we that lived there still cald it by the name of henry cooks lot.¹

Jacob Towne 'deposed that about thirty five years ago his father William Towne bought twenty acres of

¹ Fairview Avenue runs through Henry Cook's lot.

Jeffery Massey of Salem and paid for it in wheat the same year. Said land bordering upon a swamp, at the south end was common belonging to Salem at Ryal Side and ran fourscore rods to the northward. When his father removed from Salem in 1651, he sold this lot to Nathaniel Felton of Salem.'

The following deeds are recorded showing conveyances of the title to the Bulfinch lot: October 7, 1658,¹ Nathaniel Felton conveyed to John Friend for four pounds. September 7, 1665,² Samuel Friend, executor, sold the lot to John Leach, son of Lawrence Leach. John Leach conveyed to John Bachelor, May 18, 1674.

JOHN BATCHELDER, SR.

As the life and lands of this pioneer will be taken up in a subsequent chapter, only a short statement will be made as to him at this time. He settled and built his cabin on the land now occupied by the golf grounds near Elliott Street, and by occupation was a tailor. When he came, he was about twenty-nine years of age. He was a poor man, but his determination and efforts to establish a home were recognized by the town, which voted him a cow.³ In 1665, he purchased the house and land of his neighbor, John Scudder, and lived here until his death in December, 1675.

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 5, leaf 109.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 5, leaf 109.

³ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 138.

THE OLD CORNMILL

THE value of the site, with its convenient water-power, where the cornmill on Bass River was established, was seen at a very early date, as the water-power right and two acres of land were secured by John Friend at that place as early as 1647.

Nothing definite appears in the records as to the exact date of the establishment of the cornmill, but record of another matter of public importance plainly indicates its construction as early as that year. Mr. Friend lived in the vicinity and the cabin or house which he erected stood at about what is now the intersection of McKay and Elliott Streets. Mr. Friend's name does not appear in the records as a grantee of his homestead or mill site, but there may have been a private understanding between himself and William King concerning his homestead, within whose lands the site lay.

The indications are, however, that the changing of the landing-place of the Salem ferry from the head of Bass River to Draper's Point, as authorized by the General Court, May 2, 1649,¹ upon petition of the Town of Salem, March 12, 1648/9,² was made necessary by the construction of the dam in Bass River by John Friend to obtain water-power for his mill.

Reference to the existence of the mill and of its possession by Mr. Friend is first found in the records of the

¹ Records of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, volume 2, page 265.

² Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 157.

Salem Town Meeting of September 5, 1653,¹ when there was 'Graunted to Henerie Skerie a little hill incompassed about by his own marsh neare mr ffrends mill if it be not formerlie granted.'

The 'little hill' referred to was bounded by Bass River on the southwest and is a part of the land on which stands the drop-forge plant of the United Shoe Machinery Corporation and known in recent years as 'Isabel Island.'

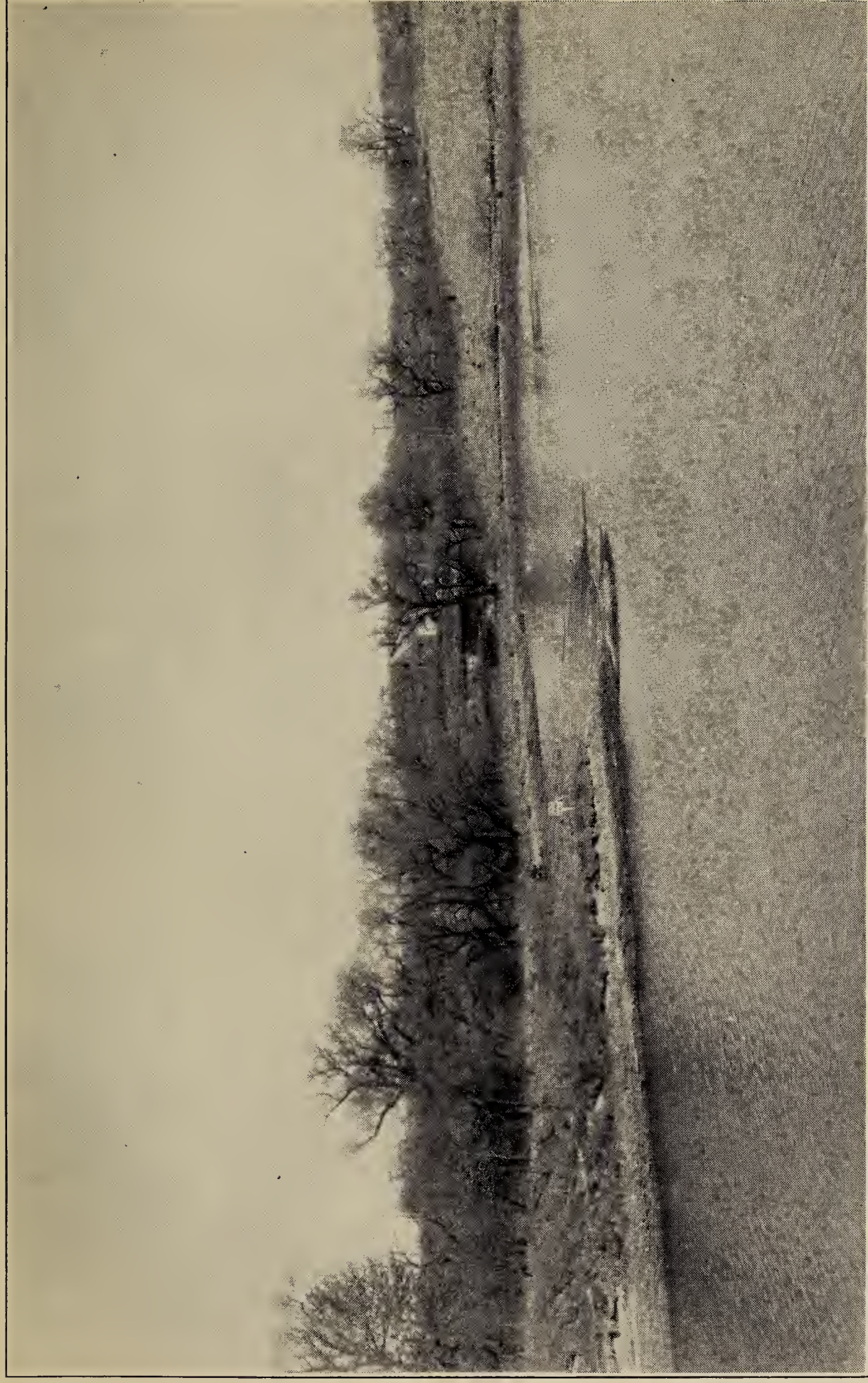
John Friend was the builder and original owner of the cornmill, but did not operate it for many years. He was granted one hundred acres of land at Manchester and lived there at the time of his death in 1655.

Lawrence Leach, a selectman, who lived near Folly Hill, bargained with Mr. Friend for the mill for forty pounds, paid ten pounds on account, and operated the mill until he died in 1662, intestate.

In the inventory of the estate of John Friend, taken February 6, 1654/5, the mill property is included in the Friend estate, and in the inventory of the estate of Lawrence Leach, taken in 1662, by John Porter and Jacob Barney, the mill is mentioned as a part of the Leach estate.

A subsequent deed from the Friend heirs shows, however, that Mr. Leach never possessed the title to the mill. His statement that he 'did owe thirty pounds for the corn mill' was proved in court at Salem, June 25, 1662, and it appears that the existence of this debt 'troubled him.' After Mr. Leach's death, it appears that the possession of the house and lot fell to William

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 175.



AT THE HEAD OF BASS RIVER

The small point of land was the first landing place of the Salem Ferry. The Path of the old Planters following the line of willow trees was the first travelled way on the 'Cape Ann Side of Bass River,' 1635

King, who, on November 8, 1662,¹ sold to John Leach, son of Lawrence Leach, 'All yt parcell of land yt was some time in ye possession of John Friend deceased on wch sd Friend built one dwelling house situated and being next to Basse River on the one side & running along by ye ld of sd William King on ye other side being about 2 acres.'

John Leach by this purchase became the grantee of the house and lot, but not of the mill. The title to the mill being still in the heirs of John Friend after the death of Lawrence Leach, it was not until September 7, 1665,² that Samuel Friend, executor of the will of John Friend, made to John Leach a conveyance of the title to the property:

This bill witnesseth that I Samuel Friend of Manchester have bargained and sold to Lawrence Leach of Salem, now decd the mill & mill house standing in Basse River with all the appurtenances thereof together with two acres of land adjoining thereto and 20 acres a little distance of all on Ryalls neck side & there being noe bill of sale made till now doe hereby grant & confirn this sale aforesaid unto John Leach same unto Lawrence Leach aforsd & to his heirs & executors forever.

SAMUEL FRIEND.

Witness, ROGER CONANT.

The twenty-acre lot had no connection with the mill property, as this was formerly the Bulfinch lot,³ conveyed to John Friend by Nathaniel Felton in 1658,⁴ but

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 4, leaf 48.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 5, leaf 109.

³ Northern Avenue and Hillside Avenue traverse the Bulfinch Lot.

⁴ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 5, leaf 109.

the mill and homestead lot were within the original confines of the King lands and the deeds from William King and Samuel Friend gave to John Leach title to both.

Mr. Leach also possessed a ten-acre lot near his mill site, lying on the east side of the river and formerly a part of the land of Henry Herrick, called 'Bushnell's lot,' on the northern portion of which stand the southern ends of the buildings of the United Shoe Machinery Corporation, and through which land Mill Street was laid out, November 20, 1657, and also Elliott Street, from the mill to Cabot Street, was located in 1808. The Bushnell lot Mr. Leach considered as a part of his mill property.

September 2, 1669,¹ John Leach conveyed to John Dodge, Jr., for 'ye sume of £250, All those parcells of land now belonging to my mill site—to say 10 acres on Beverly side called Bushnells lott & 2 acres on the other side of the river in Salem side be it more or less with the dwelling house thereon with all the fruit trees, fences and appurtenances with the mills... being bounded sotherly with ye land of Osmund Trask, eastward on Edmund Grover, northward on Henry Herrick senior.'

As Lawrence Leach had expressed a desire that his wife, Elizabeth, should have all his estate at his death, she, upon payment of seventeen pounds and ten shillings to her by her son, John, consented to the sale of this property to John Dodge, Jr., on November 26, 1670.²

John Dodge, Jr., owned and operated the mill for at least thirty years. October 12, 1702,³ he conveyed to

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 3, leaf 68.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 3, leaf 111.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 16, leaf 146.



THE OLD CORNMILL

Built by John Friend about 1647

The schooner is the Island City, which brought the corn from Long Island

his son-in-law, Ebenezer Woodberry, for the sum of two hundred pounds, 'All my Grist Mills alias Corn Mills, standing & being in the Township of Salem together with about 3,1/2 acres of land, 2 acres in Salem bounded North and West by land of ye widow King, East & South by ye mill river. Other 1,1/2 acres in Beverly bounded by sd Mill river, South partly by my own marsh & partly land of Moses Gage & East by salt marsh belonging to the Traskes. All sd mill & lands with ye rivers, streams, water courses, waters, utensils and appurtenances, John Dodge Jr. October 12, 1702, 1st year of ye Reign of our Sovereign, Ladey Queen Ann ye 1st of England, Scotland & Ireland, Queen.'

Mr. Woodberry worked as a miller before he purchased the property and continued the mill until his death, in 1714, intestate. In the inventory of his estate, taken December 3, 1714, there is shown; 'To grist Mills and one dwelling hous & barn standing in the Township of Salem with about three acres & one half of Land Lving partly in Salem aforesd and partly in ye Township of Beverly.'

This portion of the estate was appraised at two hundred and eighty pounds.

In the division of the estate, which was made in fourteen parts, part number 1 'consists of Two old Grist mills situate on Bass river'; number 2, '2 acres of the homestead land'; number 3, 'one old dwelling house standing nigh the Grist Mills.'

Parts 1 and 2 were assigned to a son, Ebenezer, and part 3, to a son, Nathaniel.

From this date there appears to be no record of the

ownership of the cornmill property for several years, and it appears to be the last instance where the existence of the old Friend house is mentioned.

In the return, made to the Probate Court by his widow, of the estate of Ebenezer Woodberry, Jr., 'who in the Providence of God was lost at sea,' no mention is made of the mill and there appears to be no record of conveyance from him as grantor prior to his death.

Dr. Israel Woodberry appears as the next owner of the cornmill, but no record can be found showing him to be a grantee or devisee. Israel Woodberry was a physician, a successful farmer, and a town record of 1792 shows him to have been at that time possessed of a considerable estate, real and personal.

The house, which now stands at the junction of McKay and Elliott Streets, in the middle part of the eighteenth century was possessed by Dr. Woodberry and William Woodberry, who occupied the western and eastern parts respectively. The latter conveyed his part to Elisha Woodberry, September 5, 1767,¹ at whose death, February 19, 1796, it was assigned to his son, Joseph, in the division of Elisha's estate, November 9, 1797.

Dr. Woodberry owned and operated the mill until he sold the entire property, except the eastern half of the dwelling-house, on July 17, 1797,² to Thomas Davis, Jr., gentleman, for the sum of \$2850, 'Two Grist mills, called Woodberry's Mills, with mill dam, flumes, timber, also all the mill privilege of the stream and the waters

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 148, leaf 240.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 162, leaf 210.

thereof. Also about 2,1/2 acres on the northwest side of the highway with the West 1/2 of the dwelling house.'

This sale was the result of a public auction which was advertised in the 'Salem Gazette,' in the issues of May 26 and June 8, 1797:

To be Sold at Public Vendue on Wednesday the 21st day of June next, at 2 o'clock, P.M. TWO GRIST MILLS under one roof, situated in the upper Parish in Beverly — Also one half of a dwelling house near said mills, and about 2,1/2 acres of land. The Conditions will be made known at the time and place of sale, which will be at the above Dwelling House. For particulars, apply to Israel Woodbery on the premises. Beverly, May 9, 1797.

Hannah Woodberry, wife of Joseph Woodberry, deceased, having sold the eastern half of the house to Thomas Davis, Jr., he thus possessed the entire Woodberry property until he died, July 17, 1840, intestate, and in the division of his estate the property was assigned to his children and grandchildren, and by them the title was conveyed to Aaron Dodge, April 28, 1848, by several deeds.

Mr. Dodge, who was an industrious and respected citizen, lived here and was the miller for at least twenty-five years. There are a number of men now living in Beverly who well remember the trim and well-placed lines of the white schooner, *Island City*, loaded with corn from Long Island, floating gracefully upon the waters of Bass River in the early seventies. Mr. Dodge by various purchases, added about sixteen acres of land to his estate and enlarged his orchard by setting out

many new trees, improving in various ways the general environment of his property.

February 13, 1871,¹ he became grantor to Israel W. Dodge for 'All the several lots of land in Beverly with the dwelling house, barns, Mills &c., which were conveyed to me from the following parties, dated and recorded as follows: Charles Davis et al, April 28, 1848; William Endicott, Guardian, April 28, 1848, Wells Standley, November 6, 1844; Ezra A. Stone, December 1, 1854; James Stone, February 22, 1855; Heirs of Suzanna Standley, April 19, 1856; Wells Standley, Guardian, April, 19, 1856. Meaning to convey the Mill privileges and all other privileges thereto belonging.'

The mill was operated under the ownership of Mr. Dodge for several years, but he sold a part of the estate on the north side of Elliott Street, house, barn, and about twenty-three acres of land, to George Tufts, June 14, 1873.²

Israel W. Dodge was the last owner of the mill who used it for the purpose for which it was originally established, which was about two and one quarter centuries prior to the time of his ownership. The mill was used for a short time for grinding old rubber, and the building was burned, June 4, 1889.

Peter E. Clark became possessed of the water privilege, which he released to the City of Beverly when alterations and improvements in the public highway became necessary at that place.

In former years, on account of the natural attractive-

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 817, leaf 67.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 883, leaf 206.

ness of this locality, artists found considerable interest and enjoyment in sketching the landscape; it was a favorite haunt of the boys of the town for swimming, fishing, and other features of recreation, and the people would picnic in the clean and shady grove on the 'little hill neare mr ffrends mill.'

MILL STREET

'A HIGHWAY FROM THE MILL AND MEETING HOUSE'

OF the highways which led from the common road (Cabot Street) in the early days of the Salem Colony, there were perhaps none which was more in use or afforded to the early inhabitants so much convenience as the way known as Mill Street.

The laying-out of this way was the result of a difference between two of the earliest settlers and their neighbors, living on the eastern and western side of Bass River, the leaders in the controversy being William King and Roger Haskell.

King and his neighbors lived on the west side of the river, on lands in the Ryal Side district; Haskell and his neighbors lived on the east side. Haskell's lands covered a considerable acreage in the vicinity of what are now Colon and Heather Streets, and he resided in this vicinity.

The cornmill on Bass River had been running for about ten years, and, at the time of the dispute, was owned and operated by Lawrence Leach. Just what the point of difference was between King and Haskell, as to the laying-out of the way, does not appear in the records, but it is evident that the location, as finally determined by the town, if not entirely satisfactory to both, must have been regarded as a general public benefit.

It has been written that the first meeting house was

situated in the vicinity of what is now Gloucester Crossing, and by the manner in which the record is made, it appears to indicate this, for the question to decide was concerning a 'way from the meeting house on Cape an syde to Lawrence Leach his mill.'

While there is no record or other evidence showing land having been given, purchased, or set apart for the erection of a meeting house in this locality, it is not unreasonable to assume that a meeting house was maintained there, nor difficult to understand why there should have been one. At this early period, a meeting house was understood to be a general place of assembly and was used for civic, military, and religious purposes as well as a rendezvous for the people in time of danger. At this time, the larger number of people living on the Cape Ann Side of Bass River occupied the northern lands.

The meeting house was either erected by the Town of Salem or by the inhabitants themselves, as the date of entry in the Salem town record referring to the meeting house was about ten years prior to the incorporation of the Town of Beverly.

Prior to the laying-out of the way known as Mill Street, travel was as inconvenient to the people living on the westerly side who wanted to go to the meeting house as it was to those living on the easterly side to go to the cornmill. King could easily go to the cornmill, as his lane ran directly to it. This lane is still traceable, as it follows the wall which runs parallel with Pierson Street. To get to the meeting house, however, he and his neighbors had to go around the head of the river and

through the path of the Old Planters to the common road (Cabot Street), a distance of about two miles. On the other hand, Haskell and his neighbors had to travel the reverse of this route to get to the cornmill.

Draper's Lane, which is a part of the location of Beckford Street, and including Dock Lane, ran directly from the common road to Draper's Point. The point took its name by reason of an acre of land being granted to Nicholas Draper by the Town of Salem in 1636,¹ and which was afterward sold to Henry Skerry by the town in 1642² for twelve shillings. It became the public landing-place of the Salem ferry when the 'hie way to draps poynt' was authorized by the Town of Salem, March 12, 1648/9:³ 'Ordered that the highway be brought from Edmond Grovers through Jonathan Porters and mr Garfords ground if the gen'll Court shall consent thereto.'

On May 2, 1649,⁴ the General Court concurred: 'The petition of Salem for removeall of the high way and landing place from the head of the Basse Ryver to Drapers Point is granted.'

The changing of the landing-place at the head of Bass River to Draper's Point was undoubtedly made necessary by the construction of the dam in the river by John Friend to secure water-power for his mill, and, incidentally, this is the best indication in the records of the approximate time of the establishment of the cornmill.

Draper's Lane had been a public ferry way about

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 102.

² Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 114.

³ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 157.

⁴ Records of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, volume 2, page 265.

eight years prior to the time that the dispute between King and Haskell engaged the attention of the Salem Selectmen, September 14, 1657:

Whereas there is a difference betwixt Wm. King & other neighbors and Roger Haskell about a highway to the mill and meeting house it is ordered that Jacob Barney and Jefferie Massey shall view the said way and make retorne thereof to the selectmen at their meeting, warning the plaintiffe & diffents to meete with the said Jacob Barney & Jefferie Massey the last day of this instant month at the mill by neine of the clock of the same day.

The result of the decision of this committee is indicated by the action of the Selectmen, November 20, 1657:¹

It is ordered that the way from the meeting house on Cape an syde to Lawrence Leach his mill shall be directlie in the countrie way to Edmond grovers and from thence to the way lying betwixt the said grovers land & land of Osmonde Traske & soe forward through the land of henerie herricke.

Draper's Lane ran through the lands of Edmund Grover, thence through the lands of Osmand Trask, thence through the lands of Gervas Garford to Nicholas Draper's one-acre lot at the point.

Henry Herrick owned all the land from what is now the intersection of Beckford and Cabot Streets, northwest, to a point about what is now Mason Street, thence westerly to the river, taking in the land west of Edmund Grover to the land where the drop-forge plant now stands. That portion of his land which was his 'english field' is now traversed by Grant, Simon, and Ropes Streets.

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 205.

The lot of land on the northern corner of Beckford and Cabot Streets, Henry Herrick sold to Andrew Elliott, May 27, 1668,¹ and a portion of the stone wall marking the northern boundary is standing at this time. Elliott lived here for many years, and the town gate, which the Town of Beverly maintained at this point, was always referred to as 'Andrew Elliott's gate.'

Edmund Grover owned a five-acre lot in the angle formed by Mill and Beckford Streets which is now traversed by Gage Street. The southern boundary of his lot is marked by a stone wall, still in place, running from Beckford Street to the railroad.

Lying west of the Grover lot was a ten-acre lot which was the southern portion of Henry Herrick's land and comprised all the land lying between the southern frontage of the main buildings of the United Shoe Machinery Corporation and the river. This lot was sold by Mr. Herrick to John Leach about 1668, but no conveyance is recorded. This was called 'Bushnells lott.' It was probably a grant to John Bushnell in 1636.

September 2, 1669,² Mr. Leach sold the lot to John Dodge, Jr. While John Dodge owned this lot, he maintained a cow house there and used the field as a pasture for his cattle. Osmand Trask planted corn in his own field adjoining, through which Elliott Street now runs, and by the records it appears that Dodge's cattle, having invaded the cornfield, Trask brought suit:

Osman Trask vs. John Dodge Jr. trespass in corn, March 1671, Verdict for defendant.... Benjamin Balch & Zacharie

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 3, leaf 38.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 3, leaf 69.

Herrick, being desired by Osmund Trask some time the past summer to view the damage done in his Indian corn appraised it at twenty bushels. Also that Trask had John Dodges cattle in pound at the same time.¹

On the north was the remaining land of Henry Herrick, about a ten-acre field, which he possessed at the time of his death, March, 1670/1. In his will proved March 28, 1671, there was devised to his son, Benjamin, 'the pasture land called my english field wch joyneth on the east syde to Andrew Elliott, lying between the cuntrye high way & the mill river,' the land 'to remaine in the hands of my sonne Henry to improve untill Benjamin be 21 years of age and in case he dye before he be 21 years of age I give the sayd land to my sonne Henry.'

On the north of the 'english field' was the land of William Dodge. The Boston and Maine Railroad, running due north and south, now divides these two fields, and on the westerly portion of each stand the main buildings of the United Shoe Machinery Corporation.

In the early part of the nineteenth century, Osman Gage became possessed of land in the 'Bushnell lott,' a part of which he sold to Benjamin Elliott, October 16, 1832.² Mr. Elliott afterward erected a house on this land, which stood until the land was purchased by the United Shoe Machinery Corporation. This was the only house ever erected on Mill Street in the 'Bushnell lott.'

That part of Mill Street from the Boston and Maine Railroad to Elliott Street was discontinued by vote of

¹ Records of the Quarterly Courts of Essex County.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 267, leaf 95.

the City Council of Beverly, May 18, 1903, and, until this portion was terminated, 'the way from the meeting house on Cape an syde to Lawrence Leach his mill' was a public highway for two hundred and forty-six years. It was 'ye high way that leads to ye grist mill.'



BENJAMIN ELLIOTT HOUSE

Erected about 1835

It stood on Mill Street in the Bushnell Lot

LANDS OF JOHN BACHELOR

JOHN BACHELOR, SR., was of Canterbury, England, and by occupation was a tailor. His name is found in the list of those sailing from Sandwich in 1637. He came with his brother, Joseph, and family. Joseph settled in Wenham, but John came to Salem and settled at Ryal Side. His name first appears in the Salem Town Records, April 15, 1639:¹ 'John Bachelor desires to be an inhabitant & is admitted & desires accommodation.'

He was made a freeman, November 13, 1640,² and had secured a grant of land the previous year, November 20, 1639:³ 'Granted to John Bachelor 20 acres of ground neare unto that wch was formerly layd out to Mr. Bishop.'

Mr. Bachelor settled and built his house in what are now the golf grounds on Elliott Street, and he found for neighbors John Marston, John Scudder, and Abraham Warren, who had shortly preceded him. He had two sons and three daughters that lived to maturity, Joseph, Mary, Abigail, Hannah, and John.

With no improved land or equipment beyond a few rude implements, he set about establishing a homestead and providing a living for his family. He was a poor man, but his determination to conquer the wilderness was recognized and encouraged by the people of the township, which is shown in the town records of October

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 86.

² Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 86.

³ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 93.

29, 1644:¹ 'At a meeting of the Elders and Townsmen They considered that the poorest man or at least hee that was most in want was John Bachelor & therefore they have disposed of the second Cow unto him wch was given by Mr. Andrews of London.'

Governor Winthrop, in his Journal, under date of August, 1643, states that 'Mr Richard Andrews, an haberdasher in Cheapside, London, a godly man, and who had been a benefactor to this country having 500 pounds due to him from the governor and company of Plymouth, gave it to this colony to be laid out in cattle and other course of trade for the poor.'

From time to time Mr. Bachelor was given smaller pieces of land and marsh adjacent to his granted lands and was given privileges in the common lands, southerly from his house to Stoney Cove on the Danvers River.

On April 20, 1656,² he, with his neighbors, Marston and Scudder, was given a small piece of land lying by the water-side, before their houses.

February 8, 1650:³ 'John Bachelor making request for libertie to fence in a little neck of land to save a pcell of marsh of his on Ryalls neck his request is granted pvided he leave bars in the midst of it for any to cart down to the water and resigne the land to the towne when they shall demand it.' This marsh land was on the north side of the large point of land near Stoney Cove and was referred to in the grant to Henry Skerry, April 27, 1654. 'Granted to Henry Skerry all that up-

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 138.

² Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 143.

³ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 167.

land lying within the fence of John Bachelor that doth fence in his salt marsh pvided it must lye in comon when the cropp is taken of ffrom it.'

Mr. Bachelor's name is mentioned in connection with a petition for laying out one of the earliest ways in the locality, being one of the six parties interested in laying out the way from the head of Bass River to the Woolestone River, May 11, 1657,¹ when a committee was appointed to 'determyne a Certaine Difference depending betwixt William King John Batchellor Nicholas Heaward &c, on the one ptye & Ensign Dixie Josiah Roots & Samuel Corning on the oth(er) ptie concerning a drift way from the head of bass river into Royalls neck.'

He occupied for several years the house and lands of his neighbor, John Scudder, as a tenant, and finally bought the property of Mr. Scudder, who had moved to Long Island, New York.

May 31, 1665,² John Scudder, currier, conveyed to John Bachelor, tailor: 'Dwelling house and grounds lying on Ryall Neck in Bass River in Salem together with all & singular ye outhouses, edifices, buildings, yards, orchards,... uplands, woods,... & appurtenances whatsoever formerly in possession of sd John Scudder & now in ye occupation and tenure of sd John Bachelor — lying and being on both sides of ye river aforesaid. — John Scudder.'

Stating to the Court, in 1658, that his age was forty-seven, Mr. Bachelor was born in 1611, and came to Ryal Side when about twenty-eight years of age. When about

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 201.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2, leaf 102.

fifty years old, he was excused by the town from military duty ¹ because of bodily infirmities, the probable result of years of hard labor in the forward struggle to improve his estate, indicated by one item in the inventory of his estate of forty-five acres of improved land.

His death occurred a short time subsequent to that of his wife, and he was survived by three of his children, Joseph, Hannah, and John, who were mentioned in his will, which also contained suitable provisions for the care of his wife:

John Bachelor, 7 mo. 1675. John Bachelor aged 63 being in perfect memory do make this my last will & testament in the year of our Lord 1675 & in the 25 year of the Reign of ye Sovereign & Lord, Charles the Second, King of England etc.² I Bequeath my soul to the Lord Jesus my redeemer & my body to my friends by them only to be interred & what estate the Lord hath given I dispose of as followeth. —

It. I give unto my loving wife Elizabeth my dwelling house during her naturall life and then to be my Son John Bachelors, also I give her my moveable estate wheresoever it is (she paying fifteen pounds in legacies as hereafter is willed) & Six pounds Per annum so long as she remains unmarried & the keeping of two cows & firewood for her necessary use to be

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 2, page 192.

² In this will, Mr. Bachelor indicates as his judgment that the year 1675 was the twenty-fifth year of the reign of Charles II. After the death of his father, Charles I, in 1649, the protectorate assumed control of the government. Charles II, who had fled to France, returned to Scotland in 1650 and was crowned at Scone by the Scots, January 1, 1651. Seeking to regain his throne, he marched into England with a small army, but was defeated by Cromwell. Upon the fall of the protectorate in 1660, he was called to the throne. Whether Mr. Bachelor was so ardent a monarchist that he ignored the protectorate or forgot the true political status of England between 1649 and 1660, we, of course, cannot decide. In any event, Mr. Bachelor seemed disposed for some personal reason to refer to this occurrence in English history as it appeared to him, without much concern as to its historical accuracy.

pd. for at the charge of my two sons as it is hereafter expressed, also I appoint her my executrix. I give my son John Bachelor my house I dwell in after my wifes decease and 20 acres of land which I bought of John Scudder except 6 acres more or less, as it is now bounded which I give to John Cressy, as is hereafter expressed and take its beginning at Abraham Warrens well so down to the brook to the comon, the brook being bound between his land and his brother Josephs and also a piece of land that lyes at the upper end of the sd 20 acres without the fence with the hither end of my Salt marsh unto a place commonly called the Rocks where they cart down wood.¹

It. I give my son Joseph Bachelor all my land in the field together with the orchard & barn and the Salt-marsh lying beyond the sd Rocks commonly caled Duck Cove,² and half an acre of marsh that I bought of Joseph Roots and half an acre of Jeffrey Massey, my will is that my two sons aforsd shall pay their mother the yearly amt. of six pounds ye annum during her widdowhood & keep two cows & pvide firewood for her necessary use and the charges thereof to be equally borne by each and the sd six pounds to be yearly paid in such specie as shee shall desire.

It. I give my Grandchild John Cresy Six Acres of land lying within my son Johns land as aforsaid along Royal neck & five pounds to be paid by my loving wife before her decease.'

I entreat Mr Henry Bartholmew & Deacon Prince to see this will truly performed. In witness whereof I have hereunto put my hand & seal the year above written May the 17:

JOHN BACHELOR, Sen. his seal affixed

Under the will, Elizabeth, the wife, was named executrix, but she, having died a short time prior to her husband, the Court declared that John and Joseph

¹ Eastern Avenue leads over the 'Rocks where they cart down wood.'

² 'Duck Cove,' where the salt marsh lay, was also called 'Stoney Cove,' and is now called 'Aunt Betty's Cove.'

Bachelor, sons of the deceased, have power of administration granted of the estate and to fulfill the above said will. The estate was appraised at two hundred and thirty pounds and John and Joseph Bachelor gave oath in court, December 22, 1675, to the truth of the inventory.

By the will, John, Jr., was devised the homestead and the lands on the south. Joseph was given the barn and land in the field, these lots being divided by the brook which runs parallel with Elliott Street, near Northern Avenue, 'the brook being bound between his land and his brother Josephs.'

Two of the daughters were deceased, Mary and Abigail. Mary married, in 1658, Mighill Creesy. She died in 1659, leaving a son, John, who at the death of his grandfather, in 1675, was placed by the Court under the guardianship of his uncle, Joseph. He was then a boy sixteen years of age.

Joseph erected a house on his land, now the golf grounds, on the westerly side of the field, the cellar of which is easily located near the wall a short distance from Elliott Street, and which was probably the site of his father's cabin.

Joseph died in 1683, and the estate descended to his son, Joseph, who died intestate in 1709. The administration was given to John Knowlton and his wife, Abigail, of Manchester, Abigail being a sister of the deceased, and they, for one hundred and sixty pounds, conveyed the property to John Creesy of Salem, tailor, December 27, 1709,¹ the deed stating, 'the land, dwelling house and the frame of a barn thereon.'

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 22, leaf 205.

John Creesy, by this purchase came into possession of the property of his uncle, Joseph, with whom he had lived when a boy. This was the homestead lot granted to his grandfather in 1639. John Creesy, who died in 1735, devised the property to his son, Noah, which was described in the will as 'a four acre lott and the house and barn which I bought of Joseph Batchelor.'

Noah Creesy died in 1799, devising to his son, Nathan, 'all the remainder of my land not already disposed of together with my house and barn.'

LANDS OF JOHN BATCHELDER, 2D

JOHN BATCHELDER, 2d, was born June 14, 1650, and married Mary, the daughter of Zachariah Herrick. He died August 6, 1684, intestate, after a comparatively short period of married life, leaving five minor children; his wife had died a short time previously.

Salem Church records: December 4, 1684: 'John Batchelder and his wife Mary being deceased gave good hope of being in the faith and if they had lived longer purposed to join in communion with this church but being prevented by death, their children are subjects of baptism.'

Mr. Batchelder came into possession of much of his father's lands, to which he added a considerable acreage under the general lease by the Town of Salem, February 1, 1677.¹ Under this lease, which ran for a term of one thousand years, he was named as one of the proprietors of all the common lands of Ryal Side, with an allotment of one hundred acres of land at an annual rental of five pounds and six pence.

At the time of his death, the children living were John, Jonathan, Josiah, Elizabeth, and Mary. His portion of the common lands was leased to him seven years prior to his death, but it was not until March 2, 1707, that a formal partition of the common lands was made by the agreement of all the lessees and acknowledged, March

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 2, page 269.

27, 1708.¹ At this time, Mr. Batchelder's rights and interest in the commons were conveyed to his three sons, John, Jonathan, and Josiah, whose ages at their father's death were ten, eight, and six respectively.

The estate was placed under the control of three administrators, Deacon Peter Woodberry, Sergeant John Leach, and Zachariah Herrick, but the latter having died before the trust was completed, the return of the two administrators was made to the Probate Court and approved November 23, 1696. The account, one item of which was 'bringing up 4 children 11 years,' showed an expense of £306, 6s., which, when taken from the appraised value of the estate, £793, 11s., 9d., left a balance of £487, 5s., 9d., to be divided, as follows: John, the eldest son, received, under the English law of primogeniture, which was the customary procedure, the double portion of £162, 8s., 6d., and the other four children received £81, 4s., 3 1/2d. each. These four had guardians appointed in 1697 and the children had the estate divided March 10, 1697.

In the report of the administrators, a paragraph reads: 'These sons to keep the lands & pay the Daughters their portions in moveables to their content and satisfaction they giving bond on the securities to performe the Same in Some reasonable time.'

In the division of the lands, John, the eldest son, was assigned the westerly division, Jonathan, the middle division, and Josiah, the easterly part. These parcels, which largely comprised the lands leased to the father, February 1, 1677, were enclosed by line boundaries which were somewhat irregular. Under the agreement

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 20, leaf 186.

of March 2, 1707,¹ the part assigned as the Batchelder division, March 27, 1708,² was as follows:

To John Batchelder, Jonathan Batchelder and Josiah Batchelder — ye most North East or North part of ye land now divided bounded as follows: viz — from a white oak east to a crooked stump and from ye stump South to a small ash & thence east to a heap of stones from thence east still to a stump near Mr Greens wall & from thence South as the wall runneth till it comes to Mr. Newmans line & from thence North West to Newmans corner & from thence South East to Cove & thence over ye Cove to Creeses wall & from thence up to ye Spring which Spring is for ye use of ye North Field parties as well as ye said Batchelder & from ye spring to a stake and heap of stones & from thence to a white oak 1st mentioned about 100 acres & shall have liberty to pass over with carts over both ye other dividends Leaches & ye North Field parties.

Starting from the spring at Stoney Cove, the lines may be easily traced, as a large portion of the stone wall which encloses the leased lands, and which is nearly three miles in length, is now standing. The main exception is that portion from the site of the church building on Bridge Street, northerly to Elliott Street. As this portion ran in the middle of the location of Bridge Street from this point, it was removed when the street was laid out.³

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 20, leaf 187.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 20, leaf 186.

³ May 31, 1856, the General Court authorized the County Commissioners to lay out the highway, now named Bridge Street.

June 12, 1869, a second Act was passed, authorizing the Town of Beverly to construct a water main.

July 22, 1870, on petition of Elias Magoun, the County Commissioners authorized the town to construct the bridge and to complete the highway from Federal Street to Cressy Street.

October 1, 1874, the County Commissioners defined the lines, conformably to the lay-out.

Jonathan and Josiah built houses on their respective divisions, but the house of the father, which was given to the older brother John, survived them both by a century.¹

The angle formed by the western and northern boundaries of the Batchelder lands is about twenty rods west of the head of Friend Street, and at this point a white-oak tree stood at the time the leased lands were described. The western Boundary abutted the lands of Sergeant Leach.

In the partition of the lands to the sons, 'the old way,' of which Cressy Street and Elliott Street are a part, was used as a dividing line of the north and south divisions of the lands, the southerly division being called 'Royal Side.'²

At the junction of what is now Cressy and Bridge Streets, there stood at that time another white-oak tree, which was the mark at the western point of the divisional line which extended easterly along Cressy and Elliott Streets as far as the golf grounds, which lot was owned at that time by John Creesy, a cousin of the Batchelder boys.

Partition: John Batchelder hath the house & barne &

¹ In the early years of the occupation of my homestead, the site of which was formerly included in the southerly garden of the Batchelder homestead, information was requested of me on several occasions concerning the history of the old house mentioned in this chapter and for over two centuries a prominent landmark. My inability to give any induced the wish to know something of it, and in the research which followed, which to me has been simply a matter of personal pastime, the horizon of exploration carried far beyond the confines of the Batchelder lands and the old house of the homestead within which Miss Bartlett, now Mrs. Pierce, and I, have spent many pleasant hours in days of our youth.

² The partition of the Batchelder lands is to be found on the map under front cover.

outhousing and his share of the homestead that Lyeth next to Sargent Leach, his land and at the South end next to Royal Side to begin at a white oak tree which is John Leach his bound & So Eastward forty six poles to a heap of stones & at the North end forty five poles wide by the land of Cornett Howard to a heap of stones.

Jonathan Batchelder's share is next, at the South end forty five poles & at the North end twenty poles wide & then all the remainder of the land to John Cresseys bounds is for Josiah Batchelder, the division on Royal Side is as followeth — Johns division is first Westwardly beginning at the white oak tree first mentioned soe to run eastward by their own land sixty poles & at the Southern end twenty six poles and a half wide.

The next division is for Jonathan, at the North end next to their own land sixty poles wide & at the South end twelve poles and a half wide. Then all the remainder of the land Eastward to John Greens stone wall belongs to Josiah Excepting four acres which belongs to Joseph Batchelder & we have observed that if they fence in their shares to themselves a highway of a pole wide shall be left Across the South end of their lotts to apiece of ground that was formerly left for a way to the watering place that Soe they may all come to the water and the lower point of land from the corner of John Cresseys stone wall & Soe over to John Greens stone wall is to belong to John Batchelders part.

JONATHAN PUTNAM

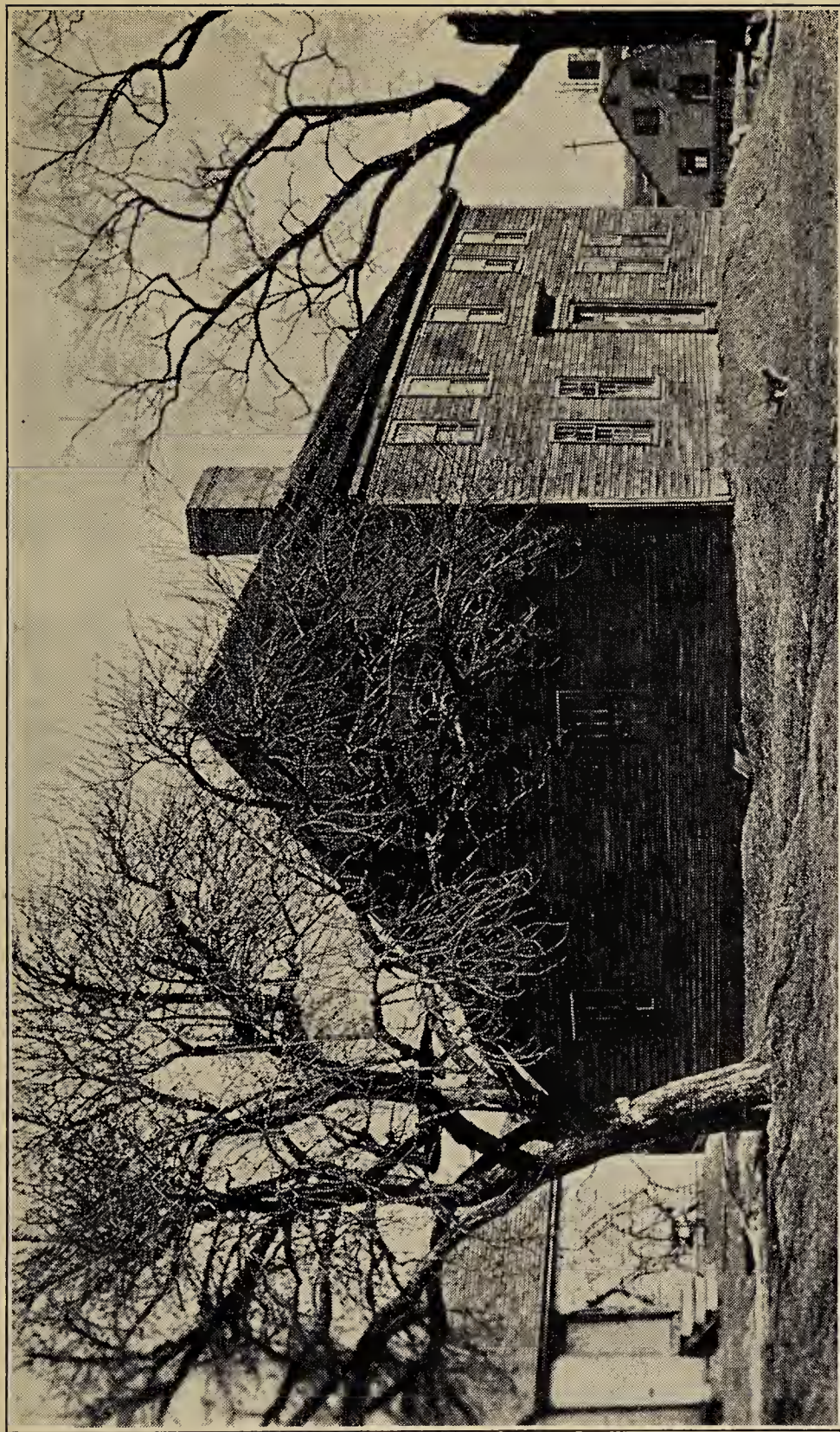
JOSEPH HERRICK

EBENEEZER WOODBERRY

Committee

The three brothers became prominent in the affairs of the community and were active in the founding of the church at Horse Bridge (Second Parish) in 1714.

John, 3d, the eldest son, was born April 16, 1675, and married, April 26, 1696, Bethia Woodbury, after whose



JOHN BATCHELDER, 2D, HOUSE

Built about 1673

Stood on Cressy Street. It was torn down in 1919, after standing 245 years

death he married Sarah Ray. By the partition of the estate, March 10, 1697, John came into possession of the house of his father, who probably built it at the time of his marriage in 1673. As the house was taken down in the fall of 1919, it stood for about two hundred and forty-five years.

His will, which was presented for probate January 13, 1747, contains to some extent a fair description of the interior of the house and otherwise presents some queer provisions, which were, however, not uncommon in the early days.

He devises to his wife, Sarah, the use of the westerly room with the cellar under and the bedroom annexed to it; 'also of ye Westerly end of ye Garrett... and the Liberty of Baking in ye oven in ye Easterly Room.' 'I likewise give to her the use and improvement of so much of my Garden as she shall need... and ye liberty of keeping one swine at ye door.'

'Joseph shall provide one horse for her to ride to ye Public Worship or carry her thither on horse back as often as shee shall desire it. all ye above mentioned I give to my wife during ye time that shee shall continue to be a single woman and no longer.... I also give to her my molatto woman named Rachael and to ye sd Rachael, I give ye bed and bed cloths shee usually makes use of.'

Certain provisions were made for the daughters, Sarah and Bethia, in money and personal property. To Joseph, 'my long Gun & my Rapier & my Weavers Loom & weaving Gear or tackling and my flax Comb & Stillyards I leave to his use & ye use of each other of my children in common.'

‘My Hatt and Wearing Apparril I give to my son Danl., and to each John and Daniel the sum of five pounds to be paid by Joseph.’

Joseph was given the dwelling-house and barn and ‘to my Son Joshua my Shop upon condition that he shall think fitt to remove it to his own land otherwise it shall be my son Joseph’s.’

The lands were divided among the four sons, John, Daniel, Joshua, and Joseph, but prior to such division ‘there shall be a way of Eight feet wide laid out from ye high way by ye shop to ye well, which way... shall remain to the use of my wife & each of my children in Comon forever.’ The Court appointed Joshua, the third son of the deceased, executor. John Batchelder, 3d, died in the early part of January, 1747.

On February 11, 1748,¹ Daniel Batchelder and John Batchelder, 4th, conveyed to their brethren, Joshua and Joseph Batchelder, of Salem, coopers, and Job Cressy (son-in-law), of Salem, taylor, all right, title, and interest they each held in the estate of their ‘Honoured Father, John Batchelder, late of Salem.’

On April 3, 1749,² Joshua, Joseph Batchelder, and Job Cressy, now in possession of the entire estate, mutually agreed to a partition:

By agreement of the above, Joshua Batchelder is the lawful owner by heirship and purchis of five twelfths..., Joseph Batchelder being the lawful owner by heirship and purchis of five twelfths... and Job Cressy being the lawful owner of two twelfths..., the said parties mutually have divided all the said Real Estate as followeth: —

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 105, leaf 221.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 105, leaf 219.

To Joshua there was assigned fifteen acres and fifty-four poles of land adjoining his dwelling-house on the north side of the highway. Also one piece of land adjoining the first containing over eleven acres on the south side of the highway. Also one piece of land in the southern part containing twelve acres, 'which foregoing parts or parcels sett out to the said Joshua Batchelder are in the the judgement of the said parties five twelfths of all the said Real Estate.'

To Joseph 'they have sett and laid out fourteen acres and fifty four poles of land adjoining his dwelling house..., bounded West on Leach and others,' north of the highway. 'Also one piece of land in the southern part containing seven acres.'

There was assigned to Job Cressy one lot of six acres and thirty poles adjoining land of Joshua and Joseph near the middle of the land on the north side of the highway. Also one lot in the southern part 'near Numan's containing eight acres.'

Granting 'to each other the free liberty of passing and repassing to and from the well always Allowing the way to the well eight feet in wedth... and Liberty of Driving Creturs over each of the partys division.'

'JOSHUA BATCHELDER.

'JOSEPH BATCHELDER.

'JOB CREESY.'

Under the will the house was given to Joseph and in the division of the lands he was assigned the land adjacent, comprising over thirty acres. Joseph lived on the place for several years and then moved to Andover, Massachusetts, from which town he enlisted in the Revolutionary Army as a sergeant. He died in 1816, possessed of only a small parcel of real estate, which the inventory shows was in Andover.

Upon his removal to Andover, he disposed of his

house and lands at Ryal Side to Jonathan Creesy, son of Noah Creesy, but while no record of conveyance appears in the Registry of deeds, other records show possession by Jonathan Creesy, who lived here and carried on the farm for many years.

The registry and probate records do not appear to show the descent of title from this time for many years, but other records of title conveying adjoining real estate indicate that the title was held by the Creesy family from the Revolutionary period to the time of the Jonathan Creesy who died possessed of the property in 1869.

Jonathan lived on the place for many years with his brother, Israel, and wife, Sarah, and during this time it was known as the 'Jonathan and Israel house.' Jonathan survived his brother, Israel, and by will dated January 17, 1865, devised to 'Sarah Creesy, widow of my brother Israel Creesy, deceased, all the estate of which I shall die possessed or entitled to of whatever name or nature.'

Item. I hereby appoint Sarah Creesy above named sole executrix.

JONATHAN CREESY.

Witnesses,

Rufus Putnam, George W. Kent, William Bradstreet.

From Sarah Creesy the property was conveyed to William Trask, December 17, 1870,¹ and by him sold to Peter E. Clark, May 17, 1875.²

Mr. Clark disposed of a considerable portion of the

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 813, leaf 11.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 927, leaf 99.

lands of the old homestead during his ownership, conveying the house and the home field of four acres to Angelo C. Brown in the early part of 1884,¹ and the heirs of Mr. Brown removed the house in 1919. The passing of the house removed a landmark in the neighborhood which undoubtedly had survived all the houses built by the earliest members of the Batchelder family in New England. It was a well-built house of the time of its construction, and the chimney, which measured twelve feet by ten feet at its base, contained five fireplaces and five ovens.

In the eastern and western rooms were good specimens of pine paneling, while surfaces and bevels on the heavy oak timbers which supported its floors and walls gave evidence of the character of workmanship employed in the construction of one of Ryal Side's earliest houses. It was undoubtedly a production of Zachariah Herrick, a master carpenter and father-in-law of John Batchelder, 2d.

The first-born child in this house was John Batchelder, 3d, April 4, 1675, and the last was Miss Florence G. Brown, December 29, 1888, an interval of two hundred and thirteen years, eight months, and twenty-five days.

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1115, leaf 51.

ESTATE OF JOSHUA BATCHELDER

JOSHUA BATCHELDER was the third son of John Batchelder, 3d, who, in the division of his father's estate, became possessed of nearly one half the lands, by purchase and inheritance. His possessions comprised a large part of the property known as the Caleb Friend farm, recently the farm of the late William A. Cressy. His house stood on the south side of the highway and the barn on the north side at the junction of Elliott and Cressy Streets.

Mr. Batchelder carried on his farm in a prosperous manner, and, while the appraisal of his estate amounted to only about one thousand dollars, the various items exhibited in the inventory of household utensils and personal estate indicate a well-provided and comfortable home. He was a respected citizen and a man of excellent character. The late John B. Cressy, shortly before his death, told of his visits to the homestead when a boy and of hearing on several occasions from a daughter, Apphia, words of respect for her father, Joshua.

He died in March, 1763, and his wife was appointed administratrix, April 18, 1763. The inventory, taken by Josiah Batchelder, Job Cressy, and Jonathan Batchelder, shows: 'One house and Barn and about thirty acres of Land... with ye Buildings thereon.' The appraisal of the entire estate amounting to £204, 9s., 7d.

No partition was made of the estate of Joshua until after the death of the widow, Mary, when the surviving

heirs, Nathan, Huldah Twiss, wife of Robert Twiss, and Apphia, the widow of Reuben Kennison, agreed to divide it. This was done by deeds of conveyance according to the terms of which each of the heirs received their respective parts by mutual agreement, the location of the various allotments being well described in each case, Nathan, the son, being allowed the house and barn with land adjacent to the homestead, and the daughters, Huldah and Apphia, their proportions of the lands.

‘Know all men by these presents that whereas Joshua Batchelder cooper and Joshua Batchelder mariner and Mary Batchelder widow, all late of Beverly in the county of Essex, deceased, did at the time of their decease leave to us a certain Dwelling hous and barn and several pieces of land situated in Beverly to be divided as the law directs between Nathan Batchelder, Huldah Twiss and Apphia Kinneson, children or heirs at law to said real estate,’ Therefore on April 19, 1794,¹ Nathan Batchelder, with the consent of his wife, Sarah, and Robert Twiss, mariner, and Huldah Twiss, his wife, in her own right, convey to their sister, Apphia Kinneson, a two-acre lot on the north side of Cressy Street; a lot of one hundred and fourteen poles, near the house on the south side of the highway, and a four-acre lot, ‘southerly by land of Israel Woodberry..., westerly Nathaniel Creesy..., Easterly by Jonathan Creesy..., northerly, land released this day to Robert & Huldah Twiss.’

April 19, 1794,² Nathan Batchelder and wife and Apphia Kinneson conveyed to Robert and Huldah

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 161, leaf 168.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 161, leaf 116.

Twiss the several lots of land assigned to them in the agreement, and on the same date,¹ Robert Twiss and wife and Apphia Kinneson conveyed to Nathan Batchelder the several pieces of real estate, together with the house and barn, which were agreed to be his share.

Of the names associated with Ryal Side, there are none so prominent as that of the Revolutionary soldier, Reuben Kennison, and concerning whose place of abode there has ever been a considerable doubt. The principal purpose of describing the partition of this estate is to show the location of the farm where Kennison lived and worked and the subsequent assignment of the various parcels to his widow.

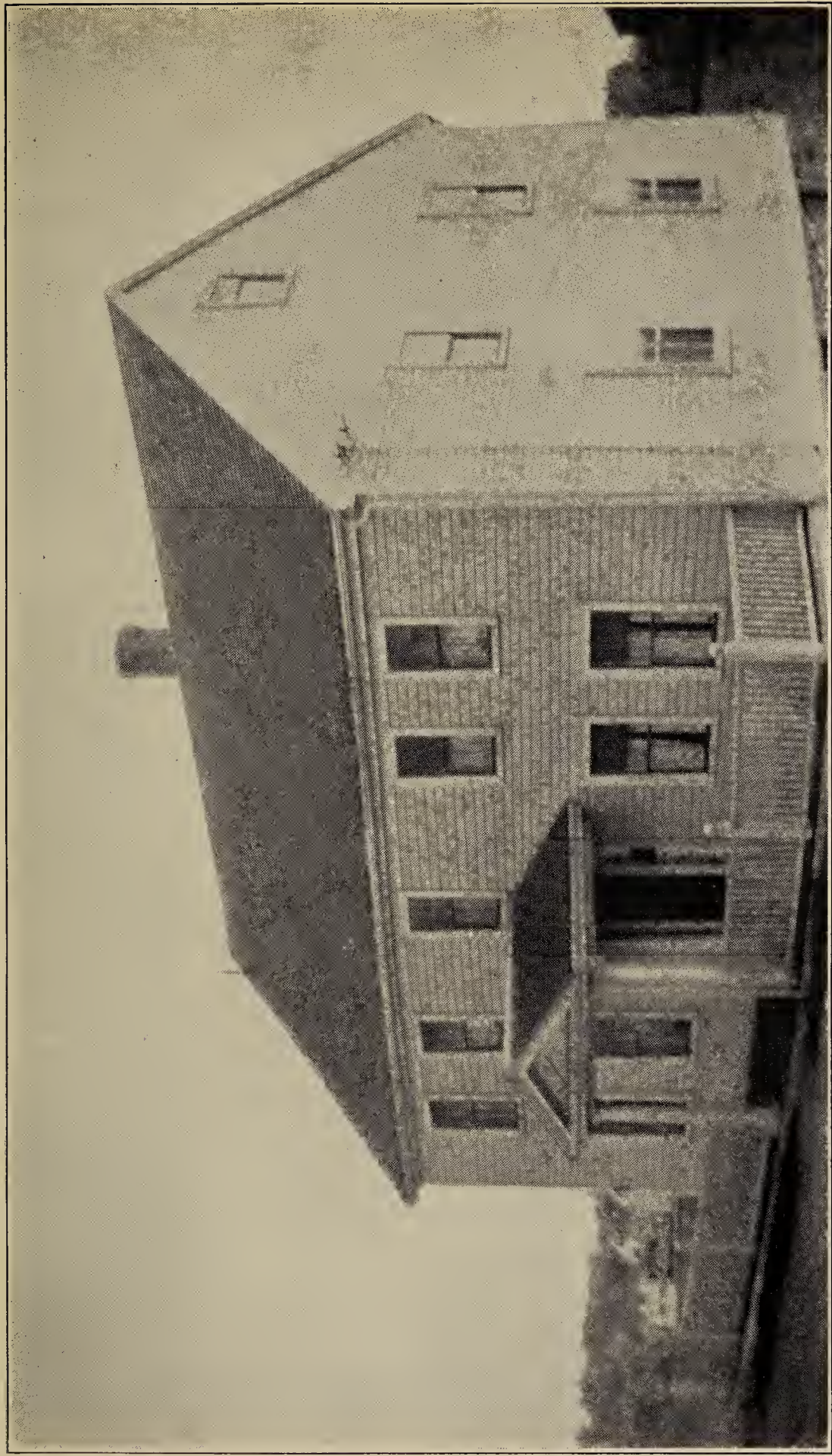
Reuben Kennison and Apphia Batchelder, the youngest daughter of Joshua, filed their marriage intentions and were married May 3, 1774, and in less than one year he, with other American soldiers, was killed by the British soldiery in the yard of Jason Russell at Menotomy, now Arlington.

Apphia married Kennison a short time before the breaking-out of the war and they lived in her father's house at this time, he assisting his brother-in-law, Nathan, in carrying on the farm. The records of the office of Registry of Deeds and of Probate for Essex County do not indicate that he was possessed of any real estate. It has been related authentically that his widow retained possession of all his personal effects until the time of her death.²

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 164, leaf 36.

² The records show very little concerning the life of this young farmer who gave patriotic service to the cause of the Colonies.

Of those known, by any who are now living, the late John B. Cressy was



JOSHUA BATCHELDER HOUSE

Now standing on Cressy Street. Ruben Kennison was living here when he responded to the alarm, April 19, 1775

In the division of her father's lands, one of the parcels assigned to Apphia lay on the north side of Cressy Street, west of the lot where the barn stood, and had a frontage of eleven poles, but no mention is made at that time of any building thereon. She undoubtedly continued to live at the homestead with her brother, Nathan, until he disposed of the house and lands, which was not far from the time she married her second husband, Uriah Wright, who was a Revolutionary soldier who had fought at Bunker Hill in Colonel Prescott's regiment.

After her marriage to Mr. Wright, Apphia lived with her husband in a small house which stood on the lot on the north side of the way above referred to, and which stood for some years after their decease. The lot is near the junction of Cressy and Elliott Streets and a recent

possessed of more knowledge concerning the life and associations of Kennison than any person whom I have known. He was personally acquainted with his widow, Apphia Batchelder Kennison, and had spent a considerable portion of his boyhood on the farm where Kennison had lived and worked.

Mr. Cressy has stated that Kennison was of New Hampshire and came to the Batchelder farm subsequent to the death of Joshua Batchelder, who died in March, 1763. Kennison was working in the field when the alarm rang from the meeting house at Salem Village (Danvers) at about nine o'clock in the morning of April 19, 1775, and, quickly preparing himself with his musket and other equipment, he passed up the way with his young wife, who accompanied him for a distance, waving a farewell as he passed from her view.

Kennison proceeded to New Mills (Danversport), joining the company of Captain Israel Hutchinson, which left for Cambridge at about ten o'clock, and, on arriving there, proceeded to Menotomy, now Arlington. Stationing himself in the yard of Jason Russell to await the British on their return from Lexington, he, with several others, was surprised by a flank guard of British soldiers and in the fight which followed, Kennison was killed. His body was brought to Ryal Side the next day and interment made in the old Leach burial place near the 'greate hill,' Leach's Hill (Browne's Folly).

On June 19, 1927, the Beverly Historical Society placed on the great elm tree which stands on the John Batchelder farm a bronze tablet commemorating the event of Kennison's departure for the scene of his military service.

excavation has revealed the foundation wall of the old house.

Apphia survived her husband. While Mr. Wright lived, he improved the lands of his wife's estate and acquired other land by purchase.¹ He has been described by the late John B. Cressy, who knew him, as being a man of excellent physique, keen and thrifty in business affairs.

August 3, 1837,² Uriah Wright and his wife, Apphia, conveyed to Ezra Dodge about four acres of pasture land, 'bounded on the north by land of Caleb Friend about seventeen poles, east by land, heirs of Jonathan Cressy about forty eight poles, south by land, heirs of Doctor Israel Woodberry about thirteen poles, and west by land, heirs of Joseph Masury, forty nine poles, with the privilege of passing over land of Caleb Friend adjoining said pasture with teams and cattle as he shall have occasion.'

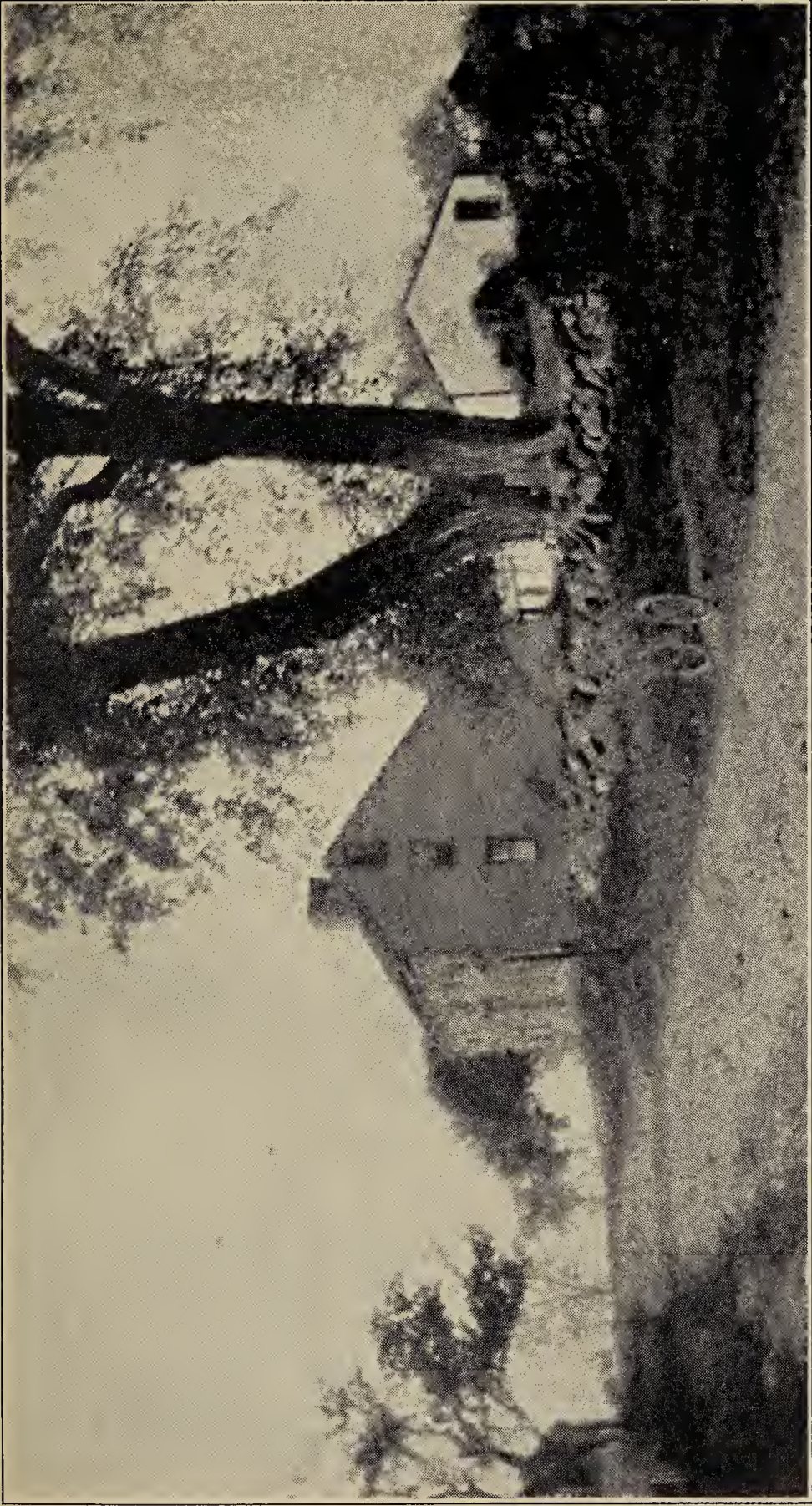
This lot, which was one of those assigned to Apphia from her father's estate, is traversed at its southerly end by County Way and the Ryall Side school building stands near its western boundary; the site of the school building occupying 'Coal Pit Hill,' formerly the land of Nathaniel Cressy and later, the land of Joseph Masury.

Apphia died October 22, 1842, about ninety years of age, and the administration of her estate was given to John Cressy, 4th.

In the later years of his life, Nathan carried on that portion of his father's farm which fell to his possession,

¹ What is now called Lard Pond was formerly called Wright's Pond.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 304, leaf 3.



THE GREAT ELM TREE

It bears the commemorative tablet of the Beverly Historical Society

The tree stands on the John Batchelder farm

for while a young man he followed the life of a mariner. In 1792, he was assessed for one house, one acre of tillage land, one acre of 'english mowing land,' one acre of meadow, four acres of pasture, one ton of hay, one cow, and two barrels of cider.

April 6, 1798,¹ Nathan Batchelder, yeoman, sold to Nathaniel Fisk, of Wenham, cordwainer, 'six acres and eighty poles of land together with my dwelling house thereon standing... also two acres on the northerly side of the road and a barn.'

The estate descended to the son, John Fisk, who, with the consent of his wife, Huldah, sold the farm to Caleb Friend, March 23, 1801.² Caleb Friend lived on the farm for many years, and during his occupancy he improved the lands and considerably increased the value of the estate.

August 15, 1853,³ Caleb sold to his son, Seth Friend, for the sum of \$2000, 'all my homestead containing twelve acres more or less and is situated at Beverly (at ryal side so called) together with my dwelling house, barn and all the outbuildings standing thereon... reserving the westerly front room for my own use during the term of my natural life.'

Seth Friend died December 13, 1872, and in the division of his estate, the widow, Elizabeth D. Friend, and a daughter, Helen A. Woodbury, was assigned one half, and a son, Seth, was assigned one half.

The return of the administrator's inventory showed a

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 164, leaf 271.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 209, leaf 59.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 482, leaf 123.

homestead and farm, on or near Elliott Street, of about twenty-eight acres.

January 18, 1873, Charles Woodberry and wife, Helen A., conveyed to Seth Friend one undivided half of the estate subject to the dower and homestead in the real estate of Elizabeth D. Friend, widow, and on the same date the latter conveyed to Seth Friend all her right of dower and homestead in the real estate of her husband, Seth Friend, deceased.

Seth Friend, Jr., remained in possession of the farm for only a short time, conveying to William A. Creesy, October 24, 1876, the property described by the various grantors to his father, Seth Friend, 'one half I inherited and one half conveyed to me by Charles Woodberry and wife, and also by deed of Elizabeth D. Friend.'

Mr. Creesy occupied the homestead and continued the farm until his death in 1909, when the property was divided among the heirs.

Since its construction by Joshua Batchelder, the house has received many interior and exterior alterations.

ESTATE OF JONATHAN BATCHELDER

JONATHAN, the second son of John Batchelder, 2d, was born March 29, 1678. In consequence of the early death of the parents, he, at the age of eight years, and two brothers and two sisters, were left in orphanage. The children were committed to the care of their grandfather, Zachariah Herrick, who until his death, was one of the administrators of the Batchelder estate. Mr. Herrick's farm was at Birch Plains,¹ and here young Jonathan was living when Sarah Goode, who was executed as a witch in 1692, wandered on the premises, and at her trial Jonathan offered some weird testimony: .

‘The deposition of Henry Herrick aged about 21 years, this deponent testifieth and saith that in last March was two years Sarah Goode came to his fathers house and desired to lodge there and his father forbid it and she went away Grumbling and my father bid us follow her and see that she went away clear, lest she should lie in ye barn and by smoking her pipe should fire ye barn and sd deponent with Jonathan Batchelder seeing her make stop near ye barn bid her be gone or he would set her further off to which she replied that then it would cost his father Zachariah Herrick one or two of the best Cowes which he had. And Jonathan Batchelder aged 14 years testifieth the same above written and doth further testify that about a week after two of his grand-

¹ Birch Plains is the name given to the district in the vicinity of Trask Street, North Beverly, and is so referred to in the earliest Salem and Beverly town records. White birch trees are now plentiful in this district.

fathers Master Cattel were removed from their places and other young Catle put in room and since that several of their Catle have bene set loose in a strange manner.'

During his lifetime, Zachariah Herrick had given his daughter, Mary, the mother of the Batchelder children, a ten-acre lot from his homestead at Birch Plains, which at her death was given to the two younger sons, Jonathan and Josiah. This lot is near the Beverly Airport.

In the division of his father's lands, Jonathan was allotted that portion of the lands lying on the east of his brother John's land. The portion lying on the south of the highway (Elliott Street) is now traversed in part by Giles Avenue ¹ and County Way. Through its northern part, Davis Road and Winslow Road are laid out, and Dodge's Lane marks its eastern boundary. This northern portion has been known in recent years as the Clark farm.

Jonathan Batchelder died in April, 1740, leaving a wife, Ruth, and three adult children, Jonathan, Lydia, and Ruth. By will he devised to his wife, Ruth, the use and improvement of much of the estate 'and Liberty of making her own Cyder at the Cyder mill ² and ye improvement of ye Little Garden before ye door as it is now fenced.... During ye whole term that Shee shall continue to be my widow but at her second marriage, then my son Jonathan shall pay unto her the sum of twenty pounds.'

¹ Giles Avenue was formerly called 'Batchelder's water way.'

² The 'Cyder mill' stood on the south side of Cressy Street at its junction with Elliott Street.

To Lydia, wife of William Porter, 'Sixty pounds to bee paid by my son Jonathan.'

To his daughter, Ruth, was given certain privileges in the estate, the use of the cider-mill, one cow, and two parcels of land, one of which was a 'Half Acre of land Being Butted and bounded Easterly by my Lane which leads over to Leased Land..., Northerly upon ye highway as ye stone wall standeth, Westerly by my own land leaving twenty feet in breadth between sd Land and ye Little Garden and Southerly by my own land.' This lot lies at the junction of Giles Avenue and Elliott Street, and remains unoccupied. On November 10, 1747, Ruth conveyed this lot to her brother, Jonathan, and in 1753, released all right and interest in the house, barn, and cider-mill.

To the son, Jonathan, there was devised 'all my Estate both Real and personal which is not herein already disposed of Including my Lease Land.' His wife, Ruth, and son-in-law, William Porter, are made executors of the will, which was approved May 19, 1740.

The son Jonathan, who owned the farm of his father, was born in 1720 and married Hepzibah Conant. It is recorded that he held a commission in the Continental Army. He raised a large family, and his will, dated October 14, 1776, mentions eight children. His wife was deceased at the time of his death, October 16, 1776. He devised to his 'Sister in Law Elizabeth Conant the use and improvement of my Westerly Great Chamber in my dwelling house... so long as shee shall continue a single woman.' He gave to his 'seven Sons and my Daughter, to wit — Timothy, Samuel, Nathaniel,

Jonathan, Asa, Daniel, George and Ruth all the remainder of my estate both real and personal, to be equally divided between them.'

The children had the estate divided by the Probate Court and the record of the partition is very minute in the description as to each of the respective parts.¹

The old house stood at the junction of Cressy and Elliott Streets, and the barn, which enclosed the cider-mill, stood on the southern side.

A large part of the land lying on the south side was assigned to Jonathan and George, the latter disposing of his portion shortly after by sale, one lot of which was a sixteen-acre lot which he sold to Jonathan Cressy in 1794, who owned at this time the John Batchelder farm. This lot, which is now traversed by County Way, was once covered by an excellent growth of pine and was commonly known as the 'Aunt Sarah Cressy Lot.'

North of the highway and bounded by Dodge's Lane on the east were assignments to Jonathan, Nathaniel, Asa, Ruth, Daniel, and Timothy. To Ruth was also given a two-acre lot west of the home field.

To Nathaniel was devised the western half of the house to the middle of the chimney, excepting the western great chamber, which was given to Elizabeth Conant, for her personal use; the western half of the barn and barnyard; three and one quarter acres of mowing and tillage where the house stands, 'and one half of the pew in the meeting house.'

To Asa was assigned the 'Eastern half part of the

¹ Records of the Probate Court for Essex County, estate 2084.



ASA AND NATHANIEL BATCHELDER HOUSE

Built during the revolutionary period. It stands on the site of the house of the grandfather, Jonathan



THE AUNT SARAH CRESSY PASTURE

This stand of pine lay between Giles Avenue and County Way, on the division of Jonathan Batchelder

house to the middle of the Chimney; the eastern half part of the barn with the cider mill and three acres on which the barn stands.' Three acres of pasture north of the home field came in his allotment: also one half the pew in the meeting house.

The house, which was thus given to Asa and Nathaniel, was probably removed by them shortly after they came into possession, as its description in the will does not conform to the house now standing adjacent, north of the site of the old house. The present house was undoubtedly built by Asa and Nathaniel in the latter part of the Revolutionary period, they occupying the eastern and western parts respectively.

December 9, 1783,¹ Asa sold to Benjamin Very one half of the dwelling-house: also one three-acre lot of pasture and a three-acre lot on the southern side of the highway where the barn stood. February 28, 1820, Mary, the widow of Benjamin Very, afterward the wife of Ambrose Cleaves, sold to Stephen Abbott all her part of the estate, which was later possessed by George Clark.

At Nathaniel's death a portion of his lands and land about the house was assigned to his widow, Elizabeth, as her dower, together with the western part of the house. The northern portion of the home field of about three acres was sold by Elizabeth to Nathan Leach, and in the division of his estate, this lot was given to his granddaughter, Sally Wallis, who, as the widow of Pyam Lovett, sold the lot, July 22, 1870,² to George Clark.

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 160, leaf 18.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 802, leaf 273.

The estate of Elizabeth Batchelder came into the possession of her sons, George and Nathaniel, Jr., who, on April 2, 1838,¹ conveyed two lots of land and the western part of the house to Jacob L. Obear. Mr. Obear sold his interest in the place to George Clark, October 7, 1865.²

Mr. Clark lived here for about thirty years, disposing of the property in 1895.

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 308, leaf 62.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 690, leaf 285.

ESTATE OF JOSIAH BATCHELDER

JOSIAH BATCHELDER, the third son of John, 2d, was born March 6, 1680, and was given, in the partition of his father's estate, 'all the remainder of the land Eastward to John Green's stone wall.... Excepting four acres which belongs to Joseph Batchelder.'

Josiah's allotment comprised much of the land included in what was later known as the Dodge or Giles farm, its boundary north of Elliott Street being the golf grounds. South of Elliott Street, its eastern boundary ran parallel with Eastern Avenue and continuing to Stoney Cove. Its western line ran by the land of his brother, Jonathan, and Dodge's Lane.¹

Josiah married, December 18, 1700, Mary Rayment (Raymond), who survived him. The children mentioned in his will were Mary, Elizabeth, Anne, Josiah, George, and Benjamin.

By will, dated September 29, 1749, he devised to his wife, Mary, 'the westerly or new end of my dwelling house ² & leanto Clear through and so from ye top to the bottom with convenient room in ye cellar under the other end and liberty to bake in the oven as she shall have occasion from time to time... and one half the fruit of the pear tree before ye door and likewise liberty to gather green beans in the field for her use and as

¹ Dodge's Lane is the old way leading from Elliott Street to the United Shoe Machinery Athletic Association Gun Club.

² The old house stood on the site of the present house, numbered 407 Elliott Street.

many apples in the Orchard as shee shall want.... During ye whole term of time shee shall remain or continue to be my widow & no longer. It is my will that upon Condition the sd Mary my wife shall be married to another man shee shall resign and acquit to my three sons, Josiah, George and Benjamin all her right of Dower and interest... and that upon sd acquittance they shall pay unto her the full sum of twenty pounds.'

Other substantial provisions were made for the subsistence and comfort of his wife. She was to have yearly 'Four barrils of Cyder putt into the cellar... and the use of a horse to carry her to the Public Worship of God as often as shee shall want.'

Bequests of money and personal property were made to the daughter, and to the sons, Josiah, George, and Benjamin, the 'Cyder mill & press' and 'all my real estate both houseing and land as well as the land I hold by lease as the homestead to be equally divided between them both for quality and quantity.' His wife and son, Josiah, were made joint executors.

The witnesses to his will were 'Jno Cresy, Jona Batchelder and Willm Green.' Josiah, Sr., died October 16, 1749.

Josiah, 2d, who came into possession of a major part of his father's estate, was born December 16, 1709, and continued the farm at Ryall Side, retaining during his life all the lands of the homestead. He appears to have taken an active part during the Revolutionary period, although advanced in years. He was a 'gentleman' and died intestate.

A son, Josiah, the eldest of ten children, was ap-

pointed administrator of his estate, March 27, 1798, and the inventory shows the following items of real estate:

The homestead on the north side of the Highway, Containing about five acres of land, together with two-thirds part of the Dwelling House & Barn thereon, Handing \$500.

About three acres of Pasture land on the North side of the way called chanted Swamp,¹ \$90.

About one acre of Land on the southern side of the way, old garden called, \$60.

About one acre and a half of wood land on the Southern side of the way on by the Bridge,² \$150. [Herricks Bridge.]

About one acre & 120 pole of upland and salt marsh on the western side of the Bridge, \$150.

About 20 acres of Pasture land called the Neck pasture, \$500.

These items of real estate comprised his father's assignment from the partition of the estate of John Batchelder, March 10, 1697, and from which no part had then been conveyed by sale. The three-acre lot named in the second item, called 'chanted Swamp,' lay about five hundred feet north of Elliott Street on the old way (Dodge's Lane) which leads to the rifle range of the United Shoe Machinery Athletic Association Gun Club.

Josiah Batchelder, 3d, was born at Ryal Side, September 25, 1736, and married, February 18, 1760, Hannah Dodge, a daughter of Captain Caleb Dodge. During the Revolutionary period he was a man of large interests and owned several armed private vessels, on one of which, the *Retaliation*, he sailed in personal command.

¹ Chanted Swamp is north of Elliott Street, and is traversed by Dodge's Lane.

² Herrick's Bridge on Green Street.

Captain Josiah appears by the records of the state and town, and by other reliable references, to have been a valued citizen and a public-spirited man. He served as a member of the Committee of Public Safety during the Revolutionary period and as a member of the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts, first Congress, October 11, to December 10, 1774; second, February 1, to May 29, 1775; third, May 31, to July 19, 1775. His participation in the Provincial Congress is shown in the official Journals of that body, published in Boston in 1838 by Dutton and Wentworth. He was the second postmaster of Beverly, serving under appointment by President Jefferson from January 1, 1807, until his death while in office, December 10, 1809. The post-office was located in his house, which is the building now standing at the corner of Davis and Front Streets.

Rev. Edwin M. Stone writes of Captain Batchelder as 'a warm and devoted friend to the cause of freedom, to promote which, he made large pecuniary sacrifices. His fellow citizens honored him with their confidence by electing him six times to represent their interests in the General Court. He was also elected a member of the committee on correspondence and a member of the Provincial Congress.... His extensive business and public station made for him a large acquaintance at home and abroad, and his numerous guests were entertained with a generous hospitality. For many years he discharged with great acceptance the duties of a justice of the peace.... He was for 35 years a member of the First Church and departed this life highly respected.'

Captain Batchelder bought and sold considerable real

estate at Ryal Side and died possessed of much real property, which included two large farms.

As a justice of the peace, his services were much in demand, and the manner in which his deeds, administrative and other documents were executed, not only show care and precision, but the neatness and character of his penmanship, which may be found in the registry and probate records, will stand as creditable work.

His four children were Josiah, Caleb Dodge, Joanna, and Hannah, and they all survived him excepting Caleb.

As administrator of his father's estate, he sold to John Lovett, his son-in-law, February 11, 1799,¹ all the items of real estate named in the inventory, and on the same date, John Lovett reconveyed the property to him. With the exception of the two parcels of land adjacent to Herrick's Bridge, his deed to Ezra Dodge of June 1, 1802,² conveyed the remainder of his father's property which had now come into his possession.

Captain Batchelder survived his wife, Hannah, who died in 1797. By will, dated November 3, 1804, he gave to his granddaughter, Hannah, 'the only surviving child of my son Caleb Dodge Batchelder, deceased, all such personal estate as came into my hands after the death of my son Caleb... also to the sd Hannah one good cow out of the stock that belongs to the Dodge farm which together with one half the farm that falls to her by the last will of her great grandfather Dodge... will be as much as I ought in justice to give her.'

To his son, Josiah, Jr., he devised 'all the live stock, tools and farming utensils, indoor and outdoor move-

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 165, leaf 38.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 172, leaf 181.

ables... my wearing apparel and five acres of land that I bot of Asa Taylor in Burch Plain Pasture.'

'I give to my two daughters Joanna Prince and Hannah Lovett all my Woodberry farm (that William Webber now lives on & has lived on for several years past),... containing a hundred and ten to a hundred and twenty acres.... and all the live stock belonging to the same.... to be equally divided.... I give to my daughter Joanna Prince one good cow from the stock that will be on my Dodge farm at the time of my decease.' He generously recognized the 'long and faithful services' of his servant, Sarah Biles. 'To Josiah Batchelder Prince, ten dollars in silver.' 'I give to my grandson, John Bartlett Prince, my gun, sword and all my military accoutrements.' He gave to the 'Second church in Beverly, that is in the Precinct of Salem and Beverly, so called, my silver tankard.' The remainder of the estate, real, personal, or mixed, is equally divided among the three children, Josiah, Joanna, and Hannah.

'Josiah, the eldest son, was born, June 3, 1776, and graduated from Dartmouth College in 1796. He was a practising physician and devoted his life to the profession. Caleb Dodge, the second son, died while a young man, Joanna,¹ the eldest daughter, married Joseph Prince of Boston, after whose death, she married Professor Ebenezer Everett. She was in early life, devoted to religious teaching in Beverly. Hannah, married Captain John Lovett, February 17, 1794.'²

¹ A tablet in the auditorium of the First Parish Church building commemorates the early establishment of a Sunday School by Joanna Batchelder and Hannah Hill.

² Batchelder genealogy.

Captain Batchelder retained possession of the farm at Ryal Side for only a short time, conveying it to Ezra Dodge, of Wenham, June 1, 1802.¹

Josiah Batchelder to Ezra Dodge, Wenham

\$1200.00 A Dwelling house and barn and about nine acres of land under and adjoining the same, bounded — beginning at southeasterly corner of the premises against land of heirs of Doctor Woodberry & the county road — thence southerly on said road to land of Nath'l Friend, thence westerly by land of said Friend and others to land of said Batchelder, thence north by land of sd Batchelder to land of heirs of sd. Woodberry, thence north & east by land of sd heirs to the county road, also another piece to the southward of said house containing three acres, north on county road, east by land of Benj. Beckford, south & west on land of Jonathan Creesy and a private way to Creesys point so called on several courses to county road the 1st bound — and a third piece called Holtons or Creesys pasture bounded north & east on several courses by land of Nathaniel Creesy to land heirs of Doctor Woodberry and so on to land of heirs of Wm. Elliott, thence easterly by land of heirs of Elliott to land of heirs of said Woodberry against land of the water lane so called to the general spring against land of Nathaniel Creesy, thence west by land of said Nathaniel to land of Rufus Putnam, thence westerly by said Putnam to said Nathaniel the 1st bound — all fenced with stone wall, the last mentioned piece to contain about twenty seven acres

JOSIAH BATCHELDER seal.

A plan for the straightening of Elliott Street, upon petition of Israel Thorndike in 1810, shows 'Dodges old house,' standing on the site of the present house which Mr. Dodge built in the early part of the nineteenth century. Mr. Dodge lived here for many years

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 172, leaf 181.

and by other purchases, added a considerable acreage to his farm. He was a man of considerable prominence and served the town in the General Court.

On January 1, 1862,¹ Charles F. Dodge and heirs of Ezra Dodge sold to Benjamin V. Giles and Walter S. Perry:

The described parcels of land with the buildings thereon containing eighty eight and one fourth acres said parcels being the estate of Ezra Dodge late of Beverly, deceased, viz: 'The Wright Lot' containing four acres and one hundred and four poles, the woodland pasture... containing with the lane nine acres, eighteen poles, the lower field containing two acres ninety two poles, the salt marsh lot, two acres and three quarters, the field bounded by the pasture by William & Rufus Putnam land, four acres, one hundred thirty poles, 'the lower Quiner field,' four acres & one hundred twenty one poles, 'the upper Quiner field' containing two acres twenty one poles, 'the square field,' two acres & thirteen poles, 'the upper pasture' eleven acres four poles, 'the great pasture,' twenty five acres & one fourth, 'the Caldwell pasture,' seven acres & one hundred thirty two poles, 'the Orchard' two acres & one hundred five poles, the field on the south side of Elliott Street, one acre & one hundred thirty five poles, the field on which the buildings stand containing seven acres and six poles, meaning to convey the whole of the real estate which said Ezra Dodge died seized &c.

MARY DODGE
JOHN HINES
HANNAH B. HINES
HELEN M. DODGE
CHARLES F. DODGE
CALEB P. BOMER
MARY B. BOMER
JACOB H. RICHARDS
NANCY B. RICHARDS

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 432, leaf 148.



DODGE-GILES HOUSE

Built in the early part of the nineteenth century



THE OLD BLACKSMITH SHOP

Stood at the corner of Elliott Street and Giles Avenue

On August 1, 1864,¹ Walter S. Perry conveyed to Benjamin V. Giles 'all my right, title and interest in and to that estate which was conveyed to us... by Charles F. Dodge and others,' etc.

Mr. Giles lived here and carried on the estate for many years, improving the character of an already well-appointed farm. His lands were of goodly yield and the buildings of the homestead well maintained. His blacksmith shop, which stood on the easterly corner of Giles Avenue and Elliott Street, afforded a convenient meeting-place for the residents, and the tools and other features of service which the old shop provided, freely placed by him at the discretion and employment of his appreciative neighbors, reflected only in part a kindly and generous nature.

In the later years of his ownership he sold a portion of his lands, and the remainder of his property he conveyed to Solon Lovett, October 4, 1895, 'a part... conveyed to me by deed of the heirs of Ezra Dodge to Benjamin V. Giles and Walter S. Perry, dated January 1, 1862.'

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 674, leaf 101.

ESTATE OF JONATHAN CRESSY, 2D

THE illustration shown facing this page is the house of the homestead formerly of Jonathan Cressy, 2d. Mr. Cressy purchased of his uncle, Jonathan Cressy, December 5, 1804,¹ for the sum of \$30, a small lot and moved the house from a location near the junction of Bridge and Elliott Streets to this lot.

December 13, 1815,² he purchased from his uncle, additional land adjoining on the west side for the sum of \$16.56.

November 23, 1843,³ he bought of John Cressy, 4th, administrator of the estate of Apphia Kennison, for the sum of \$26, a small lot adjoining on the east side. These lots comprised about one half an acre, and cost a total of \$72.56.

Mr. Cressy, who was of the fifth generation, died February 20, 1864, aged eighty-seven years. His son, Enoch T. Cressy, who was appointed administrator of the estate, April 5, 1864, sold the property to William Carter, February 22, 1870.⁴

Mr. Carter lived here for several years and conveyed the property to Ruth A. Brown, April 19, 1881,⁵ who, with her husband, Elatus H. Brown, lived here in their later years of life. Mrs. Brown, who was the granddaughter of Jonathan Cressy, 2d, survived her husband, and died April 19, 1918.

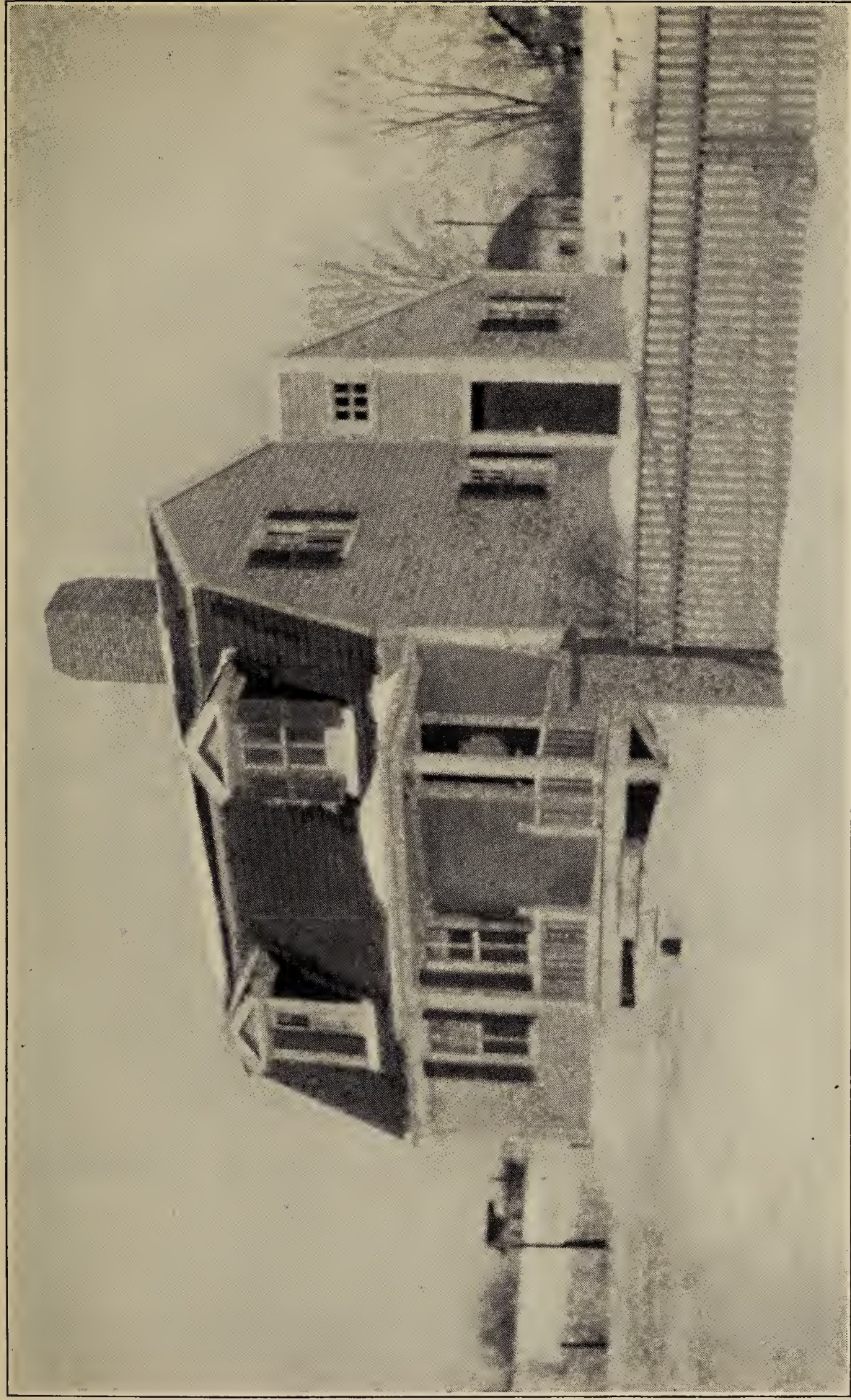
¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 175, leaf 186.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 207, leaf 242.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 340, leaf 210.

⁴ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 792, leaf 108.

⁵ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1056, leaf 199.



JONATHAN CRESSY, 2D, HOUSE

JOHN CRESY — HIS ANCESTRY AND ESTATE

THE records indicate that there were two young men whose names were William and Mighill Creese, who lived in Salem Township prior to 1650. As their names do not appear in the list of sailings, they probably came with Captain Thomas Lothrop, by whom they were employed. His lands covered a considerable territory in the vicinity of Cross Street.

Mighill worked for Captain Lothrop until 1652, when he engaged with Joshua Ray, who lived on Conant Street, and whose lands comprised what is now known as the Proctor farm. He was at that time a young man about twenty-three years of age, for in court at Salem, June 20, 1658, he deposed as a witness, giving his age as 'about 30 years.' The brothers found good homes with these families, as both had well-appointed farms and the men were both of high standing in the community.

After terminating his services with Joshua Ray in 1656, Mighill Creese worked for the Leaches and Barneys, whose farms lay in the vicinity of Folly Hill, and, possessing a good knowledge of the territory and various properties at Ryal Side, he gave intelligent and reliable testimony as a witness in several civil court cases in which he was called, and was evidently an industrious and trustworthy man.

In 1658, Mighill Creese married Mary, the eldest daughter of John Bachelor, and a son, John, born of this marriage, was the first born, bearing the name of Cresy, in the Salem Colony. Mighill lived with the Bachelors

until the death of his wife in 1659, and then removed to Ipswich, where he again married and three children were born, two sons and a daughter. He died in 1670, intestate.

John, the eldest son, was cared for by his mother's parents and relatives, from his childhood until he became of age, and a great part of the lands which he possessed in his manhood, by purchase and inheritance, surrounded the home of his boyhood.

After the death of his grandfather, in 1675, John lived with his uncle, Joseph, whose home was in the immediate neighborhood of his grandfather's homestead, and, when about sixteen years of age, in court held at Salem, December 21, 1675, he requested that his uncle be made his guardian. 'John Creasy chose Joseph Bacheler as his guardian and it was allowed.'

In his grandfather's will there was devised 'to my grandchild John Creasy Six Acres of land lying within my son Johns land... & five pounds to be paid by my loving wife before her decease.'

In manhood, John Cresy became a prominent and influential director in the political and religious activities of the community and his name appears as a leader in the several movements promoting civic development and progress. He was one of the founders of the Church at Horse Bridge (Second Parish), and on January 11, 1716,¹ was chosen as its first deacon. His name is found among the trustees of the land set apart for the erection of the first schoolhouse at Ryal Side in 1692,² which was located on Conant Street. By occupation he was a

¹ Second Parish Records.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 25, leaf 63.

‘weaver and taylor’; his income from this source, together with his gains from the soil, enabled him to accumulate a fair estate, as indicated by the probate records, and reveals a life of thrift and prudence. He married Sarah Gaines and raised a family of ten children, six sons and four daughters, and at his death, July 22, 1735, he was survived by all of them except a married daughter, Mary, and a son, John.

By will, dated June 12, 1734, he devised to his ‘wife Sarah all the remainder of my Personal or moveable estate except that which I shall hereafter dispose of... during the time of her Widowhood; That is to say the whole of said personal estate, and the Use and Improvement of the Third Part of said real estate during the whole Term of Time that she shall remain my Widow.’

‘I give to my Grandson John Cresy, the son of my son John, deceased, that Tenement or Messuage of Land on which his Father lived Adjoining Capn Herricks land containing eight or nine Acres be it more or less bounded Northwardly by a stone Wall betwixt sd Messuage of land and other Land of mine said Wall running from pretty near Greens Barn over to Greens ten Acre Lott, together with the House & Barn standing thereon.’

‘To my son Daniel, the house and Barn ¹ where he now dwells with 4 acres of upland & marsh and the remainder of the upland & marsh called Reads & Newmans I give unto my Son Daniel & my Son Job to be equally divided.’

To Benjamin and Joseph were given certain rights in

¹ The house and barn stood on the point of land lying by Danvers River, which was recently purchased by the City of Beverly for park purposes.

common, and to his son, Noah, 'a four acre lott and the house and barn which I bought of Joseph Batchelder.' Noah and Joseph are made joint executors.

The property which Deacon Cresy gave to his son, Noah, lay on the old way which runs through the golf grounds, and the site of the house may be easily located, a short distance from Elliott Street. This was the house of his uncle, Joseph, and the home of John Cresy's boyhood.

Upon the death of his uncle, Joseph, in 1683, the estate descended to his son, Joseph Batchelder, who died intestate in 1709. The administration was given to John Knowlton and his wife, Abigail, of Manchester, Abigail being a sister of the deceased, and they conveyed the property to John Creasy of Salem, tailor, December 27, 1709.¹

The son, Noah, to whom this property was given, was born August 24, 1710, and married a daughter of Joseph Trask. He died here in 1779, survived by his wife, Sarah, and two sons, Jonathan and Nathan.

By will, dated February 18, 1779, Noah devises to his wife, Sarah, for her use, the east half of his dwelling-house and one third part of his personal estate. To his son, Jonathan, ten acres bought of Joseph Batchelder, five acres on the 'Neck Hill' and a piece of land adjoining that of John Cresy which is fenced in by itself called 'ECCorn Hill.'

To his son, Nathan, 'all the remainder of my land not already disposed of together with my house and barn.' Two thirds of the personal estate is divided

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 22, leaf 205.

between Jonathan and Nathan, 'excepting my horse and shaise & them I give to my son Nathan, but at ye same time I reserve Liberty for my wife to Improve ye horse and Shaise as she shall have occasion.'

The sons, Nathan and Jonathan, were made joint executors of the will. This property afterward became possessed by Dr. Israel Woodberry and then by Thomas Davis, Jr., and was a part of the Davis farm. It is now a part of the golf course. The way on which the house stood was much used in the eighteenth century and was called 'the Way into Royall Side.'

The two points of land lying below Stoney Cove on the Danvers River, which were granted to Henry Skerry by the Town of Salem, April 27, 1654,¹ and sold by him to Abraham Read, October 8, 1673,² comprised a portion of the lands which, with the buildings thereon, were apportioned to Daniel and Job under their father's will, Daniel having 'the house and barn where he now dwells.'

This part of John Cresy's estate was purchased by him of Abraham Read, October 22, 1695,³ for the sum of fifteen pounds. 'Two small necks of land excepting small partition of marsh ground belonging to ye Ellingwoods, Ryall Side & contain 3 acres more or less of upland & marsh with dwelling house, fruit trees, fences &c being ye whole of ye said Reads land at Ryall Side.'

On May 8, 1688,⁴ Mr. Read sold to John Green the southeastern part of the large point containing about

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 177.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 4, leaf 148.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 11, leaf 61.

⁴ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 8, leaf 84.

two acres, and on March 19, 1689, John Green conveys this lot to John Creasy, of Salem, tailor.

The Newman lands, which lay to the north of the two points, passed into the possession of the Green estate, July 31, 1691,¹ and out of this land, Mary Green, widow of John Green, sold to John Cressy, August 1, 1691,² six acres. March 11, 1692,³ John Green Jr., with the consent of his mother, Mary, sold to John Cressy, a parcel of two acres.

Mr. Cresy, by these purchases, became possessed of about fourteen acres and comprised that portion of his estate which he devised to Daniel and Job. As the deed of October 22, 1695, from Mr. Read appears to be the first instrument conveying to John Cresy the possession of a house, he probably, at the time of his marriage, erected a new house on the Scudder lot which was formerly his grandfather Bachelor's residence. Daniel lived in the Read house until a short time after his father's death, when he removed to Andover to continue his occupation as a cordwainer.

Upon his removal to Andover, the place was occupied by his brother, Joseph, to whom Daniel sold his portion, March 1, 1737,⁴ the deed describing thirteen acres. On the same date, Job Cressy conveyed to his brother, Joseph, his right of upland and marsh, 'known by the name of Reads and Newmans.'

By various conveyances which have been described in a preceding chapter, the two points passed into the

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 9, leaf 22.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 10, leaf 31.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 10, leaf 30.

⁴ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 79, leaf 166.



DEACON JOHN CRESSY HOUSE OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

As it appeared during the ownership and occupation of Deacon Cressy

Built about 1690

John Scudder's house and tannery stood on the lot in 1642



DEACON JOHN CRESSY HOUSE OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

During the ownership and occupation by Mr. Fred O. Cressy

Porter estate. The smaller point is now owned by Mr. Robert Robertson and the larger has been recently acquired by the City of Beverly.

The property which Deacon Cresy devised to his grandson, John, described as 'that Tenement or Mesuage of Land on which his Father lived Adjoining Capn Herricks Land,' appears to be in part the land purchased by his grandfather, John Bachelor, of John Scudder in 1665, and sold to John Cresy by his uncle, John Batchelder, 2d, January 16, 1681,¹ and covering twelve acres. 'John Batchelder... to John Creesy, Salem, Tailer,... East by Abraham Warren and John Green there to run from a stake in the brooke by ye sd Greenes dwelling house unto a white oak wch is the head bounds of Abraham Warrens land so to run on a line Southwest from ye sd white oak to a walnut bush & heap of stones being a corner bound & soe to run Southeast to a stake by ye swamp side being the corner bounds at that place.'

At this time no mention is made of a building standing on the lot. The rude cabin or house which occupied it had been removed, and in its place, Deacon Cresy erected a house, he occupying the western part and his son, John, the eastern part. Exterior alterations of the old house which have been made within the last half-century have considerably changed its appearance from that of Deacon Cresy's time.

The land surrounding the homestead on the west, north, and east, was at a very early period owned by Abraham Warren, father-in-law of John Green, and while there are no records of conveyance, excepting the

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 6, leaf 68.

sale of two small lots in 1672, John Green became possessed of the Warren lands, from which seven acres on the north were sold by him to John Cresy, November 13, 1682.¹

On March 20, 1661,² Abraham Warren bought of Edmund Marshall a ten-acre lot, 'having land of William King on the east, on the west land of John Bachelor, on the north land of Nathaniel Howard and being bounded southward by the river.' This lot, which was later owned by John Cresy, lay east of his homestead lot, and its easterly boundary by land of William King in 1661 was that of 'Capn Herricks' in 1735.³ Lying on the north of this lot was a portion of the land of Andrew Elliott, of seventeen acres, comprising the 'further lot,' the 'profit field and profit pasture,' and 'ebens hill and hill pasture.'

These two last-named lots were conveyed to Mary Elliott, widow, by Ruth Friend and other heirs of Andrew Elliott, March 9, 1826.⁴ Mary Elliott conveyed this lot to Benjamin Elliott, April 27, 1830. Charles R. Elliott and other heirs of Benjamin sold the land to Fred O. Creesy, July 5, 1889. 'Ebens hill and hill pasture,' together with the Green ten-acre lot, were sold by Fred O. Creesy to William W. Gray in 1895.

The title of the lot on which the house stood, which was originally the site of John Scudder's tannery, together with the surrounding land purchased of John Green, remained in Deacon John Cresy and his de-

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 6, leaf 68.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2, leaf 39.

³ Near Herrick's Bridge, north side of Elliott Street.

⁴ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 241, leaf 121.

scendants to the eighth generation, covering a period of two centuries, when the property was sold by Fred O. Creesy to Gilman Goldsmith, in September, 1892.

In the old portion of the North Beverly Cemetery, is a small headstone of slate, shattered by the treatment of two centuries, inscribed in the quaint letters of the period:

John Cresy

Died

July 22, 1735

LANDS OF JOHN GREEN

BUT very little can be found in the records of the Quarterly Courts, or in the records of the Town of Salem or of Beverly, concerning John Green. The time of his coming to the colony is very indefinite, for in the sailing lists there appears the name of John Green in four entries prior to 1650. His name appears in the court records as a witness as early as 1650, and as a juryman and in other instances near that time. By occupation he was a mariner. He married Mary, the daughter of Abraham Warren, October 7, 1659, and was the administrator of the estate of his father-in-law.

On September 18, 1661,¹ there was 'Graunted to Jno Green two acres of land wher Abraham Warren lived one Ryal side to be layd out by Jeffy Massey.'

May 5, 1682,² 'Receaved of John Greene toward the building of the new meeting house fourty shillings a free giveft.'

March 23,³ 1684, he was given 'liberty to bury thenceforward his dead in Beverly Buriall place.'⁴

With John Batchelder, John Leach, and John Tompkins, Jr., Green became a lessee of the common lands at Ryal Side under the general lease from the Town of Salem, February 1, 1677, 'for a term of one thousand

¹ Salem Town Records, volume 2, page 18.

² Beverly Town Records, in Beverly City Documents, 1896, page 397.

³ Beverly Town Records, in Beverly City Documents, 1896, page 419.

⁴ 'Beverly Buriall place' is the old cemetery between Cabot Street and Monument Square.

years and one day,' and was assigned one hundred acres in the eastern part of the leased territory. The annual rental of each of the divisions was five pounds. In the partition of the common lands, March 2, 1707, the boundary lines of John Green's allotment are not recorded.

The stone wall indicating the division of the leased land to John Green, a portion of which is still in place, began at its southern extremity at Dixie's Cove ¹ against a cross-wall which separated Salt House Point, thence running north as the wall runs, serving as a divisional line of the Batchelder and Green lands, continuing parallel with Rowell Avenue, and terminating at its northern end on old Green Street, near Herrick's Bridge.

The Salem Town Records do not mention the name of John Green prior to the time that he was granted the two-acre lot where his father-in-law lived, which was September, 1661.

On December 28, 1635,² the Selectmen of Salem voted 'That Abram Warren may have a ten acre lott and an howse lott.' This house lot appears to have been that which the Selectmen intended to grant to John Green in 1661, after its abandonment by Warren, but instead was sold by Warren to Green, May 13, 1672,³ and the description found in the deed indicates that the 'howse lott' stood in the golf grounds, not far from Elliott Street.

Instead of accepting this 'howse lott' where Warren lived, Green evidently induced Selectman Massey to lay

¹ Dixie's Cove lies on the north side of Salt House Point.

² Salem Town Records, volume 1, page 11.

³ Essex Registry of Deed, book 3, leaf 154.

out for him two acres on the south side of the brook which ran before the two acres and into the waters of King's Cove. On this lot, which lay near the intersection of Green Street and Woodlawn Avenue, Green built a 'Little house' for his temporary residence or until his larger and permanent house was erected.

The location of Green's first house may be definitely located by subsequent records. The lot sold by John Batchelder to John Cresy, January 16, 1681,¹ describes its boundary, 'East there to run from a stake in the brooke by ye sd Greenes dwelling house,' northerly, 'unto a white oak wch is the head bounds of Abraham Warrens land.'

In the will of John Cresy, the east boundary of his land was a 'Wall running from pretty near Greens Barn over to Greens ten Acre Lott.'

March 20, 1661,² Warren bought of Edmund Marshall a ten-acre lot, bounded east and west by land of John Batchelder, north by land of Nicholas Howard, and on the south by his own land, with a dwelling-house thereon. On the same date, he bought of Marshall another ten-acre lot, lying between the land of John Batchelder and William King, and bounded south by the river.

Before Warren's death, a part of the lands which he owned passed to the possession of John Green, although the records do not show that he was either a grantee or devisee of Warren, with the exception of a small transaction in 1672.

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 6, leaf 68.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 2, leaf 39.



JOHN GREEN HOUSE

Built about 1680, torn down 1894
It stood on Bridge Street, opposite Winthrop Avenue

The ten-acre lot granted to Warren in 1635 which lay north of William King's land, was probably that which was sold by John Green to Nathaniel Hayward, October 25, 1680.¹ The lot lying between the lands of Batchelder and King descended to Jonathan Green, son of John Green, 2d, and was possessed by John Cresy prior to 1735. This was the lot, the east boundary of which adjoined 'Capn Herricks land.'

About seven acres of the remaining Marshall lot of ten acres, then in the possession of John Green, was sold to John Cresy, November 13, 1682.² The remainder of this lot and another small lot which lay in the golf grounds were retained by the Green estate and descended to Jonathan Green, a grandson of John Green, Sr.

August 9, 1683,³ there was added to the Green estate ten acres of land at Salt House Point by purchase from John Newman, and on July 31, 1691,⁴ Elizabeth Newman and her son, John Newman, administrators of the estate of Antepas Newman, conveyed to Mary, the widow of John Green, forty-four acres. These were the lands originally granted to John Winthrop, Jr., and given by him to his son-in-law, Antepas Newman, at the time of his marriage to Elizabeth Winthrop.

John Green died in the winter of 1690/1, intestate, and his estate was divided February 28, 1690/1:⁵

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 11, leaf 190.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 6, leaf 68.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 6, leaf 90.

⁴ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 9, leaf 22.

⁵ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 9, leaf 117.

The Greens Agreement entered August 8th, 1693

Be it known unto all men by these presents: That whereas John Green formerly a liver in the bounds of Salem... on the land that is near & adjoining to ye land commonly caled by ye name of Royal Side & having a part the said Royal Side land as it is hired of ye Town of Salem, But ye abousd John Green being by ye providence of God lately removed out of this world by death and not having ye Opportunity in his time of Sicknes to set his house in order So as to dispose of & Settle his Estate to his Wife & Children by leaving his will... his now Surviving widow Green... and all her children ... both married and unmarried... those parties abovesd Jointly meeting together in ye Serious Considerations of a Good Agreement & Settlement in ye distributing of whole Estate...

To Mary Green, widow, was assigned one end of the dwelling-house, which she shall choose, and 'the back Leanto of said house and one half of the Barn and the best bed in the house, one third part of the whole estate of the Land Excepting the land at Burch Plain and the ten acres of land at the Salthouse point Lying in the land called Ryall Side and two acres of land which is in Royall Side commonly called by the name of the Rockwell.'

To Abigail, wife of Nicholas Rich, four pounds in money and four acres of land which they live upon. To Elizabeth Green, four pounds in money and four acres of land at Salt House Point, and to Mary, wife of Tobias Trow, was given money and land.

To John Green, Jr., 'that part of Ryall Side which his father hyred of the town of Salem and that part of said land which hath been laid out upon said land by his father.'

An inventory of the estate of John Green, taken by Nehemiah Grover and Alexander Osburn, March 21, 1690/1, showed 'three acres of land & an orchard on it and a dwelling house, £50 & barn £20 & another Little house £5, fifteen acres of land, thirty acres of land at Burch plain, two acres of land at Ryall Side. Ten acres at the Salt House point in Ryall Side, tho by the shore uncertain.'

The total appraisal of the estate, real and personal, amounted to four hundred and seventy-six pounds and four shillings.

Elizabeth, to whom was assigned four acres of land at Salt House Point, married Jacob Reed, of Salem, and they conveyed their interest in the property to William Green, son of John Green, Jr., July 1, 1706.¹

John Green, Jr., died in 1697, and the inventory of his estate, taken in 1698 by Thomas Rayment and John Cresy, showed three acres of land and an orchard upon it, a dwelling-house and barn, outhousing and fifteen acres of land, ten acres at Salt House Point, and ten acres of Mr. Newman's. The real and personal estate was appraised at two hundred and thirty-four pounds and six shillings. His estate descended to his widow, Hannah, and sons, Jonathan, John, and William Green. On March 13, 1698,² Mary Green, grandmother, conveyed to Jonathan Green, John Green, 3d, and William Green, sons of John Green, 2d, two thirds of the Newman lands, or a tract of thirty-eight acres.

The estate of John, 2d, became largely possessed by

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 18, leaf 232.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 61, leaf 207.

his son, Jonathan, who died in 1731, in possession of the rights in the leased land of one hundred acres and the land of the Green estate lying north of Elliott Street. In the division of Jonathan's estate, one third was assigned to his widow, Mary. Seven acres called the 'New orchard,' and twelve acres called 'sheep pasture,' set off to her, descended to a granddaughter, Anna, the daughter of a son, John, deceased, who, with her husband, Gideon Gowing, conveyed the lots to William Green and Josiah Batchelder, April 8, 1779.¹ They became grantors to Dr. Israel Woodberry by deeds of 1784 and 1785.²

The 'new orchard' lot is now occupied by the Ryal Side playground and the Green burial lot. The 'sheep pasture' lies on the south side of Bridge Street, between Winthrop Avenue and Bass River, and is traversed by Lee and Bass Streets, Folger and Riverview Avenues.

Lying south of the 'sheep pasture' was a lot of about twelve acres set off to a daughter, Hannah, wife of Nathan Wyman. This lot was later possessed by William Green. The remainder of the estate fell to a son, William Green, and to Israel Green, both of whom possessed portions of the dower and the ten acres at Salt House Point became the property of William Green.

Jonathan Green's house, which was his residence, appears to have stood in the golf grounds, on the west side of a way leading northerly from Elliott Street, called 'Nash's lane.' His widow married Joshua Corning, and they conveyed their interest in the property to Andrew Elliott. This lot appears to have been one of

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 136, leaf 223.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 145, leaf 73.



ON THE GREEN LANDS LOOKING ACROSS BASS RIVER TOWARD
BEVERLY

About 1870
Mr. Adoniram Porter and Mr. John B. Hill



MR. JOHN B. HILL STANDING ON THE GREEN LANDS LOOKING
NORTH TOWARD THE OLD CORNMILL

About 1870

four acres out of a ten-acre lot, about six acres of which were sold to John Cresy by John Green in 1682.

Four of the heirs of Andrew Elliott conveyed their interest in the property, together with a lot of one acre adjacent, to Josiah Batchelder, April 11, 1780:¹ 'Small piece of land near our barn about one acre... East on a way from our dwelling house to the road, south with Batchelder's land, South west with land of Noah Cressy, north on land of John Cressy Jr., thence east and south with the cow pen fence on several courses as the fence now stands to the aforesaid way — Also our part of dwelling house formerly built by Jonathan Green of said Beverly, deceased, which we purchased of Joshua Corning — Also all our right and interest in undivided land near said house and Barn which was left in common by a committee that divided the Green estate to accommodate the heirs.'

The cow pen stood in the stone wall by the side of Elliott Street near the 'wedding cake,' which is the location of the sixth hole of the golf course and which occupies the one-acre lot sold by Warren to Green in 1672.

The Smith farm became established by purchase by Nehemiah Smith of Ezra Trask and wife, Hannah, a daughter of Jonathan Green, January 20, 1748,² and the new orchard, adjacent, was added by subsequent purchase by Job Smith, to whom the Town of Salem gave a release of reversion, August 1, 1753.³

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 138, leaf 73.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 100, leaf 17.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 100, leaf 17.

With the exception of the Dr. Israel Woodberry lot, the land lying from Salt House Point and between Winthrop Avenue and Bass River, also a lot of twenty-six acres lying north of Bridge Street on which the John Green house stood, came into the possession of William Green from the estate of his father, Jonathan. The estate of William Green descended to his son, Moses Green, and continued by descent to John A. Green.

The house of the homestead, which became the home of Moses Green, was probably built by John Green not far from the time that he became a lessee of one hundred acres of land from the Town of Salem under the general lease of 1677/8 and which undoubtedly stood on 'that part of said land' devised to John Green, Jr., 'which hath been laid out upon said land by his father.' It stood on the north side of Bridge Street, opposite Winthrop Avenue, and was torn down in 1894.

A large portion of the Green estate lying on the west of William Green's division, from the river near Mr. Robertson's land, and running north, crossing Bridge Street at Eastern Avenue, to the playground lot, comprised substantially the division of Israel Green.

On August 1, 1753,¹ the Town of Salem gave a release of reversion to William and Israel Green of the lease 'made by the Selectmen of said town in ye year 1677 to John Green et al., as may appear by ye records of said Salem.'

The estate of Israel Green descended to his son, John, who on April 2, 1805,² sold to Nathaniel Porter for the

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 100, leaf 38.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 175, leaf 235.



MR. JOHN PORTER AND WIFE HANNAH

Married August 18, 1812

Photograph taken in 1867 in the apple orchard of the Porter Farm, Ryal Side

sum of \$3754, 'Farm in Beverly, formerly Israel Green's, deceased, counting about 54 acres and about 64 poles, with dwelling house, barn and other buildings.'

In marking out the land of what is known as the Porter Farm, the description of the boundaries found in the deed locates the point of beginning at the junction of Bridge Street and Winthrop Avenue, thence southerly as Winthrop Avenue leads to the river, thence along the river shore to Ellingwood's Cove, thence, in a general northerly direction on several courses, to the playground lot, thence southeasterly to the point of beginning.

The farm of Nathaniel Porter became the property of his son, John Porter, who lived here for many years and whose sons became active and prominent in the civic and business affairs of the town. John Porter died, August 8, 1869, intestate, aged eighty-three years, survived by his wife, Hannah, who died February 26, 1879, aged eighty-seven years. The administration of the estate was given to a son, William Porter, of Lynn, January 6, 1870.¹

The Israel Green house is still standing at the junction of Winthrop Avenue and Harris Street, south, and the division is now traversed by Winthrop Avenue, Harris Street, Leach Street, Kernwood Avenue, Livingstone Avenue, Ashton Street, Rowell Avenue, and Gregg Street, and upon these highways a large number of Beverly citizens have their homes.

¹ Essex County Probate Records, book 252, leaf 101.

THE SECOND PARISH CHURCH

THE Second Parish Church is fortunate, from an historical standpoint, in being able definitely to fix, from the information found in the diary of Rev. Joseph Green, pastor of the church at Salem Village (Danvers), the exact date of the erection of their church building.

The locality where the building stands was, in the early days, generally referred to as 'Horse Bridge.' Horse Brook, now known as 'Bell's Brook,' crosses the 'olde Ipswich roade' (Conant Street) a short distance westerly from 'ye countrey way' (Cabot Street), and for over two centuries a bridge was maintained there by the Towns of Salem and Beverly. Its name was usually carried in common reference to the church building erected and maintained in part for many years through the efforts of the early residents of Ryal Side, whose interest and attachment to this community, through the influences of family relationships and other agreeable associations, were cordial and sustained. Because of this spirit and interest, request has been made that this chapter be included.

Rev. Edwin M. Stone, a former pastor of the Second Parish Church, has already written well of its history; therefore it is partly the purpose of this chapter to cover briefly the several real estate transactions with which the 'Church at Horse Bridge' is associated.

The Town of Beverly was incorporated October 14, 1668.¹ Its western boundary at that time extended no

¹ Passed, October 14, 1668, Mass. Archives, volume CXII, pages 182-183.

farther than Bass River and a line running northerly from the head of the river by Horse Bridge to the Wenham line, excluding Ryal Side and the territory lying between Frost Fish Brook and Bass River. As this boundary line excluded Ryal Side from the municipal limits of Beverly, the Ryal Side portion of the territory continued as a part of Salem and did not become a part of Beverly until September 11, 1753,¹ or about eighty-five years after the incorporation of the town.

Those who lived at Ryal Side and in the northern part of the town in the early days were far removed from any church. Some of them may have attended church at Salem Town or the First Church at Salem Village (Danvers), while a small number were connected with the First Parish in Beverly Town.

After the establishment of the First Parish in Beverly, there seemed to be a disposition on the part of the town to invite the residents of Ryal Side to join with that church. On March 12, 1702/3, a committee was appointed for the purpose of securing membership from among them, but this effort did not appear to meet with much success.

At a town meeting of March 20, 1707, 'It was Voted That there Should be a Commite Chosen to treet Riall Side men and at the same time Capt william Dodg thomas Woodbery Mr Robert Hall Capt Thomas West Jonathan Rayment Where Chosen a Commite with full power to treat with our naibors & frinds of Rialls side In Referens to wat thay ar Willing to Give annually to our Town In Consideration of there Coming to hear the Word preacht with us.'

¹ Province Laws, 1753, Chapter 12.

A written proposal was made to the town by several residents of Ryal Side, April 10, 1711. The town accepted their proposition on April 16 of the same year. Among the residents so obligating themselves to the support of the First Parish Church were Jonathan Creesy, Samuel Trask, Stephen Howard, John Batchelder, Jonathan Batchelder, Josiah Batchelder, and Nehemiah Howard.

But this arrangement evidently continued for only a short time, since the inconvenience of travel and other reasons led the inhabitants to consider the establishment of a church in northern territory in conjunction with those living in that section and with whom they were by family relationship and friendly interests more closely united.

It was in the winter of 1711 when the project was formally brought to the attention of the Town of Salem. December 17, 1711, Salem voted 'that the inhabitants of Ryal side be allowed, with some of their neighbors of the village and also of Beverly, to build a meeting house near horse bridge on the line between Salem and Beverly.' It appears that some objection was made by a few of the residents in the locality who were members of the First Parish, but their remonstrance was not considered sufficient.

By order of the General Court, October 24, 1713, the 'Precinct of Salem and Beverly' was established. November 13, 1713,¹ the first meeting was held at the house of Captain John Dodge, which stood at the head of Bass River near the first tee of the golf course and which

¹ Second Parish Records.



SECOND PARISH CHURCH BUILDING, NORTH BEVERLY

Called in 1714, the 'Meeting House at Horse Bridge'

was centrally located for this purpose. It was 'voted forthwith to proceed to ye building a meeting house for public worship of God'; also 'that ye meeting house should be set up by the county Road neare ye hous of Mr. Jabez Baker in Beverly.'

It was 'voted to choose a committee of nine persons to manage ye affairs of building and finishing sd hous, any five of them agreeing.' It was decided that the house should be forty-eight feet long, thirty-eight feet wide, and twenty-two feet stud. It was afterward agreed to build the house fifty feet long by forty feet wide if the timbers would permit.

March 9, 1713-14,¹ it was voted to raise money for building the house and to buy the land. The first owner of the land on which the church building at North Beverly stands was John Balch, who died in 1648. It was next possessed by his son John, who died June 16, 1662, intestate. Administration was granted to Mary Balch, widow. The Court at first ordered that the estate should be divided between the widow, Mary, and a daughter, Mary. March 31, 1663,² the Court ordered that because 'Mary the daughter of John Balch being deceased that Benjamin Balch (brother) after the end of seven years should enjoy all the lands that belonged to said John Balch 50 acres more or less, the said Mary to enjoy all the improved land, upland meadow during the term of seven years.' This property Benjamin Balch conveyed to his son, Benjamin Balch, February 1, 1688/9.³

¹ Second Parish Records.

² Records of the Quarterly Courts for Essex County, volume 3, page 47.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 21, leaf 20.

Benjamin Balch, Jr., died intestate in 1698, and in the division of his estate there were set off two lots, one of three acres and one of six and one half acres, assigned to his son Ebenezer.

The three-acre lot assigned to Ebenezer stood on the south side of Conant Street and is now occupied in part by the Bass River School lot. The lot of six and one half acres is described in the record as follows: 'Unto Ebenezer, son of dec'd nine acres and a half of land, Six acres and a half thereof lying northwesterly from the County highway Commonly called Boston Road and is Bounded South Easterly by said Road and East northerly by the land of John Rayment, Secundus, and Northwesterly by the land of Benjamin Balch and west southerly by the highway that goeth toward Topsfield.'

This lot Ebenezer Balch sold to the 'Precinct of Salem and Beverly,' May 1, 1714.¹ An abstract of the record of conveyance is here given:

Ebenezer Balch to ye Inhabitants of ye district or precinct call'd Royall Side. The people of Royall Side and Township of Salem and ye people of sd Salem Village living to eastward of frost fish brook and some of the Northwest part of Beverly adjudged to be a distinct and separate princinct to set up and carry on ye public worship of God amongst them as May appeare, wherefore & in consideration of fifty pounds currant money of the precinct abousd paid by Joseph Herrick & others being a Committey Authorized and Impowered by the people of ye precinct aforesd to purchase land for them, ye sd fifty pounds of money I doe acknowledge that I have received & am therewith fully satisfied contented & payd to ye Said Ebenezer Balch with consent of his now wife have bargained and sold... unto Joseph Herrick, Nathaniel How-

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 27, leaf 161.

ard, Thomas Rayment, John Trask, and Jonathan Dodge all of ye Township of Salem — Jonathan Rayment, Edward Rayment and Andrew Dodge of ye Township of Beverly, abousd, they being all of ye Committeey aforesd, a certain parcel of upland and ground containing six acres and eighty two poles —

Bounded — South by ye countrey road that leads from Ipswich to Boston and is near to the hous of Jabez Baker, Bounded westerly by Beverly Townway, bounded northerly westerly and northerly by Deacon Samuel Balch — Easterly by land of Jonathan Rayment and partly by land of Capt. Peter Osgood. Witnesses, Lot Conant, Henry Herrick, Jonathan Conant. Acknowledged, May 2, 1714.

In the deed conveying the title, it is stated that the lot was in the form of the letter 'L.' On a plan in the possession of Mr. Fred H. Wallis, whose homestead is in the southeastern corner of the lot on Conant Street, it may be seen that from a stake at about the driveway the long line of the 'L' ran northerly, thence turned westerly, thence southerly, thence westerly to near the Cabot Street entrance to the cemetery, thence along Cabot Street, a distance of about four hundred feet to its junction with Conant Street, thence easterly along Conant Street to the point of beginning. The plan being incomplete and measurements not given, a fair idea of the lot can be had by taking a rectangular parallelogram and attaching a shorter one, perhaps half its size, to one of its sides.

Because of the establishment of the meeting house, the locality became one of public interest and general assembly. As we have seen, the northeast corner of what is Cabot and Conant Streets was occupied by the

Balch lands. William Dodge's lot and house was on the southeast corner, now known as the Webber place. Jabez Baker lived on the southwest corner, and on the northwest corner was the lot of Samuel Herrick which he had bought of Exercise Conant, December 28, 1692.¹

After acquiring title to the land, the committee proceeded immediately in the business of construction, for about one month later, the building was raised, the evidence of which is found in the diary of Rev. Joseph Green, pastor of the Church at Salem Village (Danvers). The entry reads as follows: 'June 8, 1714 — I went to ye raising of ye Meeting House at Horse Bridge. I began with prayer and came home, went again at noon, dined at Mr. Herrick's. My father Gerrish concluded at night and Mr Blowers read and sang the 122 Psalm.'

Mr. Blowers was the minister at the First Parish Church in Beverly and his selection of the 122d Psalm was particularly appropriate. Mr. Gerrish was Rev. Joseph Green's father-in-law and was then minister at Wenham. Mr. Herrick was undoubtedly Joseph Herrick, a constable of the town and lived at Cherry Hill on the land that his father, Henry Herrick, devised him by will.

So in this inconspicuous entry in the diary of the minister of the Church at Salem Village, made over two centuries ago, the whole picture of the event, so far as it related to the men and the place, becomes clear. The records of the Second Parish Church do not show anything which indicates the exact date when the building was raised.

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 13, leaf 204.

The meeting house thus raised was placed on what is now the northeast angle of Conant and Cabot Streets. The Church membership was to comprise 'the inhabitants of Riall Side in the township of Salem, some of the northwest part of the township of Beverly and the inhabitants of Salem Village living to the eastward of Frost Fish brook.'

At a meeting of the Parish, held March 29, 1715, Rev. John Chipman, then a young man of Harvard College, was chosen as its pastor and continued until his death, March 23, 1775, a period of sixty years.

Shortly after Mr. Chipman's settlement, a grant or assignment of an acre of land was made by the Parish to Mr. Chipman upon which he could erect his house, July 1, 1715.¹ Instead of building on this lot, he bought, on September 6, 1715,² the property of John Conant, for the sum of one hundred and ninety-seven pounds, twelve acres of land, 'with ye house, barn, orchard, fruit trees, fences & fencing thereon,' bounded, 'Northeasterly partly by ye Town road or highway & partly by ye land of Jabez Baker Northwesterly partly by ye land sd Baker & partly by ye Country road Commonly known by ye name of Boston road Southwesterly & Southeasterly by ye land of Capt. William Dodge.'

Mr. Chipman lived here until his death and his descendants retained an interest in the estate practically the entire time until it was sold to Frank A. Woodbury, May 5, 1888,³ under whose ownership the old parsonage is maintained in excellent condition.

¹ Second Parish Records.

² Essex Registry of Deeds, book 30, leaf 3.

³ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 1223, leaf 148.

The lot which the Parish assigned to Mr. Chipman he retained until March 8, 1757,¹ when the Parish voted to sell the lot to Joseph Fluant, provided Mr. Fluant should pay to Mr. Chipman the sum of one pound, thirteen shillings, four pence, which he did. The committee representing the Parish conveying the lot to Mr. Fluant were John Leach, Jonathan Batchelder, and John Conant. A portion of the Wallis homestead, numbered 27 Conant Street, is included in the Chipman-Fluant lot.

On January 11, 1716, John Creesy, the first born of that family in the Salem Township, was chosen as the first deacon of the new church. Deacon Creesy lived at Ryall Side and his home was on Elliott Street, adjacent to the golf grounds. He was one of the founders of the Second Parish Church, and his membership continued until his death, July 22, 1735.

Robert Hooper, Jr., of Marblehead, became greatly interested in the progress of the Parish. He owned a large acreage at Ryall Side at that period, was a gentleman of large means, and was the owner of the land on and about Leach's Hill (Folly Hill) afterward owned by William Browne, of Salem, who was likewise a wealthy merchant.

A recognition of Mr. Hooper's interest and practical friendship is found in the Parish records under date of May 8, 1753: 'Voted that whereas Robert Hooper Jr., Esq. of Marblehead, hath by his generosity and donation greatly obliged this precinct in presenting us with a bell on his own cost and charge for ye use of said pre-

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 111, leaf 258.

cinct: In consideration whereof, voted, that this precinct do grant and freely give unto ye sd Robert Hooper Esq., his heirs and assigns, the pew at the southerly end of our Public Meeting house, situate between Mr. Porter's and Deacon Cressy's pew.'

At the same meeting it was voted 'to Lath and Plaster overhead over ye above sd pew upon ye parishes cost.'

The early records of the Second Parish Church are interesting, and much has already been written concerning them. Many of the names found therein are those of the families who first settled on the lands of the district and who were the immediate descendants of the original grantees or early owners: Herricks, Batchelders, Conants, Balches, Leaches, Dodges, Rayments, Trasks, Reas, Woodburys, Grigges, Creesys, Haywards, Fluants, and Browns.

Aside from its prominence as a religious institution, the Second Parish has witnessed many events in our national life in which its members have taken an active part, and the character of its historical associations has stood important in the annals of the township from the time Rev. Joseph Green 'went to ye raising of ye Meeting House at Horse Bridge.'

THE RYAL SIDE SCHOOL

ATTENTION was given at a very early date to the establishment of a school at Ryall Side, and the original movement appears to have been with the inhabitants of the district, whose homes were widely scattered. These residents informally organized as a Board of Trustees or Managers and purchased a lot for the erection of their schoolhouse.

April 5, 1692:¹ 'Jacob Barney to Farmer Porter, Mr Hayward & others. for seven pounds in silver money paid by Mr Israel Porter, Sergt John Leach, Cornet Nathl Howard (Hayward) sen. Corporal Joseph Herrick Sen. Benjamin Porter Joshua Ray Sen Thomas Rayment Sen Edmund Bishop Sen John Trask Junior, John Creasy, Joshua Ray Jun. John Ray, John Flint Sen. all of them inhabitants of Salem,... a certain parcell of upland Containing two acres... & laying near the River Commonly Called by ye name of Frostfish River... butted and bounded..., Northwesterly upon ye Countrey Road... with a marked oak tree. So to run by ye Road twelve poles... Eastwardly with ye land of Doctor Griggs²... Twenty six poles... Southwardly with the land of Said Griggs... twelve poles... westwardly with land of Corporal Joseph Herrick Sen & Thomas Rayment Sen & John Trask Jun. & Robert

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 25, leaf 63.

² Dr. Griggs's house stood near the house of Mr. George W. Dodge, 151 Conant Street. The oak tree stood in the angle of the wall at the junction of Dark Lane and Conant Street, easterly and southerly.

Cue... twenty six poles and Eleven foot to ye said Oak.'

This was the corner lot bounded by Dark Lane westerly and Conant Street northerly, and is now a part of the land of Mr. George W. Dodge.

Whatever means were provided for the maintenance of this school, beyond those given by the residents and trustees, were provided by the Town of Salem. Before the middle of the eighteenth century, the trustees evidently disposed of the lot, which undoubtedly became a part of the large estate of William Browne which comprised the Porter and Barney farms. This schoolhouse was succeeded by a new one, which was erected on the north side of Conant Street about opposite the site of the first one.

January 29, 1740,¹ William Porter and his wife, Edith, conveyed to the 'Society yt Joins in building Sch. H. in Salem,' 'in consideration of the good will & affection which I have & bear to the Society that Joins in Building of a School House in said township, have given & granted unto the Said Society one rod & a half of land lying & being on the Northern side of the Common Road and fronting Barneys Gate & ten feet of Land back from said Road for the use & benefitt of a School House to all such as are proprietors in Building of said School House.'

This lot stood on the northern side of Conant Street, near Burley Street, and opposite the entrance to Dark Lane where Jacob Barney maintained a gate. The schoolhouse erected on this lot was quite small, as the

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 94, leaf 204.

lot measured only about twenty-five by thirty-five feet.

Municipal assistance given this school was allowed by the Town of Salem until 1753, when Ryal Side was made a part of Beverly.

April 19, 1750,¹ William Porter sold to Robert Hooper, Jr., for the sum of one thousand, eight hundred and forty-three pounds, four shillings, 'All my Farm in said Salem, consisting of two hundred & forty six acres & seventy six poles,... Saving only the Land the School house stands on which I have given to the Proprietors of Sd School House.'

The building, which stood on the lot which Mr. Porter gave, was occupied for school purposes for nearly fifty years when it appears to have been replaced by a new building, on another but near-by location.

May 10, 1790,² the Selectmen of Beverly defined the lines of the various school districts, and the town ordered that 'Ryal Side School district contains all the Dwelling Houses and persons dwelling in them which are to the westward of Josiah Batchelders³ to Danvers line and that are to the westward of Bartholmew Trasks house on both sides of the way to Danvers line and to the westward of Burch Plains Road to Danvers line and their School House to be built near the north end of Barnies Lane so called.'

The schoolhouse which the Town of Beverly authorized in 1790 succeeded that which stood on the Porter

¹ Essex Registry of Deeds, book 95, leaf 54.

² Beverly Town Records, volume 7, page 372.

³ Josiah Batchelder's house stood on the lot now occupied by the residence of Mr. Paul S. Eaton, 407 Elliott Street, and the line which defined the school district ran directly north to Trask Street.



RYAL SIDE SCHOOL OF 1890
Miss Lizzie E. Trask, Principal

lot and was placed on what is now Liberty Street, which was laid out in 1788.

What is now Foster Street, and known as Dark Lane, was at this time called 'Barnies' (Barney's) Lane, and the location of the lot was a short distance westerly from its junction with Conant Street.

For the support of this school in its first year, the records of the Beverly Town Meeting of 1791 state: 'in the Royal Side District there were 36 polls assessed for the upkeep of the School and the sum of 18£-10-8¹ was allowed.'

The reports show that, at the end of the first decade of its establishment, the school stood in a favorable light.

To the Beverly Town Meeting of March, 1809, the School Committee reported: 'The Committee have visited the School in Royal Side district, under the care of Mr. Shepard. At the first visit the appearance was not very attentive: the Second was rather more pleasing. Decent order was observable and Sum few individuals discovered a manifest alteration for the better. A small class in English Grammar Gave a short Specimen of their attainments in that Art, which considering the Shortness of the term did honor to their instructor & evinced a becoming Zeal, application & diligence in themselves.'²

At the Town Meeting of May, 1809, the Committee submitted certain recommendations which were adopted: 'Voted: that the School money Shall be distributed by the Selectmen to the Several districts as near as May

¹ About ninety dollars.

² Beverly Town Records, volume 9, page 20.

be as follows, viz: to Bassriver district, Royal Side, Bald Hill, Dodges Row, Eastern Farms and Western Farms districts so as to average 190 cents to each rated Poll.' ¹

Rev. Moses Dow of the School Committee, reported to the Town Meeting of April 3, 1810: 'The School at Royal Side District under the care of Mr Samuel Jackson has also been twice visited by the committee. This School has ever been behind Some others. Its advantages are small. But at the Second visit your Committee were pleased with the ingenuity and diligence of the Young Gentleman who had the care of the School.' ²

This schoolhouse was continued for about sixty years, when it was moved down Liberty Street toward the bridge, made into a small dwelling-house, and the present schoolhouse, now unoccupied, was erected on the site. This school was maintained by the Town of Beverly until 1857.³

School facilities for the inhabitants of Ryal Side living east of the Beverly-Danvers municipal boundary line, as now established, were available only in the public schools of Beverly Town proper, subsequent to 1857, and this situation continued until a school was established in 1889 on the site of the present school building.

The present Ryal Side school building stands on land which was formerly a part of the Batchelder Farm.

¹ Beverly Town Records, volume 9, page 32.

² Beverly Town Records, volume 9, page 48.

³ Mr. George W. Dodge, now living at 151 Conant Street, Danvers, attended the school located on the Liberty Street lot for about two years prior to the removal of the school building, 1852.



RYAL SIDE SCHOOL OF 1900

Not less than thirteen of the boys in this group served in the land or naval forces of the United States during the World War

During the Revolutionary period, the lot was a part of the estate of Nathaniel Cressy and during his ownership was given the name of 'Coal Pit Hill,' for the reason probably that Mr. Cressy maintained a charcoal kiln on the hill. Nathaniel was a Revolutionary soldier, serving in the company of Captain Caleb Dodge. His house stood on the homestead lot of Mr. Arthur L. Hutchinson, Sunnycrest Avenue.

This school was established in 1889 in a two-room wooden building, under the care of Miss Lizzie E. Trask, Principal, with a membership of eighteen pupils; this number doubled the succeeding year. The accommodations afforded by this building were soon found to be inadequate and, with the establishment of the United Shoe Machinery Corporation in Beverly, it was found necessary to construct a larger building.

In 1902, a brick building of four rooms was erected, but this provision was found insufficient by the end of the decade. In 1910, the building was enlarged to provide for the addition of four more rooms, and in 1920, the rear wing was constructed which gave an extension of floor space equivalent to a total of twelve rooms, which is the present classroom accommodation.

During the school year of 1929, the total enrollment reached approximately five hundred pupils. Including the principal, the school at the present time maintains a force of fifteen teachers.

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- 1 Granted to Richard Ingersoll — 1636
- 2 Granted to Jacob Barney — 1636
- 3 Leased to John Leach — 1677-78
- 4 Leased to John Tompkins and 11 others — 1677-78
- 5 Granted to Henry Skerry — 1654
- 6 Granted to John Winthrop, Jr. — 1638 and 1639
- 7 Leased to John Batchelder — 1677-78
- 8 Leased to John Green — 1677-78
- 9 Granted to Henry Cook — 1638
- 10 Granted to John Batchelder, Sr. — 1639
- 11 Granted to John Scudder — 1642
- 12 Granted to Edmund Marshall — 1636
- 13 Granted to Nicholas Hayward — 1642
- 13x Granted to Abraham Warren — 1635
- 14 Granted to William King — 1636
- 15 Granted to John Bushnell — 1636
- 16 Granted to Gervas Garford — 1636
- 17 Granted to Nicholas Draper — 1636
- 18 Granted to Edmund Grover — 1636
- 19 Granted to Henry Skerry — 1653
- 20 Granted to John Marston, John Scudder, and John Batchelder — 1656
- 21 Granted to Henry Herrick — 1636





